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Summary of News.

Monday, 4th May.

Indian Engineering writes:—"We have recently seen at work in Fort William a punkah-pulling contrivance which, for simplicity, economy, and efficiency, will take a lot of beating. The machine, as we saw it, was placed against the outside wall of the building in which the punkahs were to be pulled, and the ease with which, by means of a moderate pressure of the foot upon a pedal, a long line of punkahs was kept in full swing was certainly remarkable. We may briefly say that the rope from the punkah is attached to the upper end of a wooden rocking lever about nine feet long, the lower extremity of which is pivoted to a piece of planking which forms the base of the machine. Movement is imparted to the rocking lever by two toggle levers about two feet long each, one of which is pivoted to a bracket fixed to the wall, while the other is pivoted to the rocking lever about six feet from the ground. The toggles are made to open to their full extent by the pressure of the foot upon a hinged pedal, the movement of the pedal being conveyed to the toggles by means of a vertical connecting rod, pivoted at its two extremities to the pedal and to the centre of the toggles respectively. The backward swing of the punkahs serves to bring the toggles back to very nearly their original position. As previously mentioned, the toggles are about two feet in length, which gives a total motion of nearly four feet, and as they are fixed at about three-fourths of the height of the rocking lever, the distance through which the top of the latter moves, and consequently the punkahs, is five feet. The power required to work the machine is exceedingly small, the pressure of one foot upon the pedal sufficing, as we have said, to pull a long line of punkahs, and as the cost of construction is very low indeed, we feel justified in foreseeing an extensive field of usefulness for the invention as soon as it becomes known."

A PECULIAR caste dispute is just now engaging the attention of the Bombay High Court. A member of the Pathare Kshatria caste is suing several others for five thousand rupees as damages alleged to have been sustained through his excommunication for having engaged the services of a dancing girl for a marriage festival. The plaintiff alleges that some of the members of the caste, but not the caste itself, in 1887, adopted a rule that in order to reduce expenses on ceremonials, dancing girls should no longer be employed for festive occasions. He transgressed this injunction, which was not binding upon him, and he was consequently excommunicated. The defendants allege that the rule was adopted by the whole of the caste, and that the Court has no jurisdiction in the case. Judgment has been reserved.

ALTHOUGH the local police authorities have been pursuing their inquiries in a most energetic manner, nothing practically has been discovered to satisfactorily clear up the mystery which envelops the deaths of the two young Parsee ladies, Bachoobai and Perozebai, who were supposed to have jumped out of the tower of the Bombay University. But, judging from the fact that the four or five persons who were detained by the police have been allowed to go free, and from other circumstances which have since transpired, it may safely be said that the idea entertained in some quarters that the girls had fallen victims to foul play has not gained any additional support. The case is so wrapped up in mystery that all the three theories suicide, accident and murder, are fairly well supported,

MR. ELIOT, Meteorological Reporter, has abandoned his idea of going home on leave. No changes will, therefore, take place in the Meteorological Office.

THE Russian Government is about to issue a fresh and severe edict against the Jews. They are required to live within more limited district than they have been occupying. The result in Moscow alone will be the compulsory removal from their present dwellings of fourteen thousand Jews.

THE Paris house of Messrs. Rothschilds has quite unexpectedly declined to proceed any further with the issue of the new Russian Conversion Loan. This action is generally regarded as a protest against the renewed and extreme persecution of the Jews in Russia.

Tuesday, 5th May.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Philadelphia Weekly Times* writes:—"A friend of mine, just back from England, passed an hour with the poet a fortnight ago, and he tells me that Tennyson's aversion to people is growing with his years. No man, perhaps, positively hates his fellow-creatures so much as does the poet-laureate. Just now he wants to go on a voyage in the Mediterranean, and for days his family have been trying to secure his passage in a vessel in which he can be protected from fellow-passengers. 'I will not go if I must mix with a miscellaneous mob voyagers,' he told my friend. 'People bore me beyond endurance. I want to be left alone, and they seem positively determined not to allow me my freedom. That's why I live here. A London town home would be perfect misery. Bah! I detest folks, and I wish they would reciprocate the feeling and leave me alone!'"

Truth reports that special commands have been issued by the Queen that the new regulations concerning presentations at Drawing rooms are to be strictly enforced. A lady can now make a presentation only if she is to be herself present at the Drawing room, and she can make one presentation only during the year, in addition to her daughters or daughters-in-law. Of course this restriction does not apply to Lady Salisbury and other ladies who have to make official presentations. Moreover, the operations of those enterprising dames who were in the habit of advertising in the papers that they would present ladies for "a consideration" have been entirely stopped, as in three cases the advertiser was traced by the Court officials, with the tragical result that they were all forbidden ever again to appear at Court.

THE Shah is not only a prose writer, but has also some pretensions to the character of poet. One day having completed a poem which particularly delighted him, this autocratic monarch deigned to read it to one of the most prominent men of letters attached to his household. "What do you think of it?" he asked, after reading his verses aloud. "I do not altogether like the poem," was the candid reply. "What an ass you are to say so!" exclaimed the offended Sovereign, and there was certainly much wisdom in the Royal words, for the misguided critic was forthwith ordered to the stables to be flogged. A few days later, the Shah having written another poem, once more desired to hear the opinion of the learned scribe whom he had consulted before. Hardly had he read a few lines of his latest lucubration when the learned man turned abruptly away, and prepared to run out of the room. "Where are you going?" thundered his Majesty. "Back to the stables!" cried the critic in desperation. So amused was the King of Kings by this repartee that he forgave the delinquent, and forbore to have him flogged a second time.

AN Indian John Brown.—Some attention was attracted to a circumstance when the Queen embarked in the yacht to convey her to Grasse. She leaned on the arms of her Indian attendant while the Duke of Connaught walked behind. It is now gossipped that Her Majesty, who is faithful in her likes, as she is pronounced in her aversions, has put the Indian in the place occupied by the famous John Brown. The Indian successor to John Brown began to take rank about the time of the Jubilee. He is a spendid fellow, stalwart but supple, gifted with the courtly dignity that comes natural alike to well-bred Hindu or Mahomedan. He has also the gentleness of a woman and the reverence of a child. To him the sovereign is more than Queen of Great Britain, His qualities commended him to Her Majesty as a suitable personal attendant. He now rides at the back of the Queen's carriage and leads her pony. He is ever by her side, ready to fetch, carry, and —greatest honour of all—he is permitted to lend his arms as a support to His Royal Mistress' steps when she is weary, if the way is difficult or her injured knee is troublesome. Hence he has been detailed to accompany Her Majesty on her foreign holiday tour with other favourite belongings. Her Majesty has a fancy to lie on one bed only, and wherever she goes the bed is taken with her.

THE Emperor William, speaking at a banquet at Dusseldorf (4th May), said he would leave nothing untried in his endeavours to preserve the peace of Europe.

Wednesday, 6th May.

A SOMEWHAT sensational murder case has just been concluded in the court of Sessions at Bareilly. One Sital Dass, a Mohunt, is said to have been most brutally murdered by some of his own village people. It would appear that the people of Harrampore, the Mohunt's own village, were annoyed with him. A few months ago, when the Mohunt or Babaji, as they call him, went to this village to collect rents, he was inveigled into the *choupal* of one Baijoo on the pretence of settling some old dispute. When in the *choupal* he was seized and stabbed. The *choupal* was then set on fire. The charred or partially burnt body was removed, and no trace of it has yet been found. Among the things burnt the police found a key which was supposed to have been the one which Sital Dass always carried with him, and did so on that occasion also, and it belonged to the lock of his *Mandir* in Bareilly. The key was tried and fitted. Before the Sessions Judge the witnesses for the prosecution made statements which contradicted their statements before the police, and so it is believed that the fellows will get off. The judge has reserved judgment.

LORD KNUTSFORD's Bill for enforcing the observance of treaty rights by Newfoundland has passed through Committee of the House of Lords, certain Government amendments being agreed to, making the operation of the Bill temporary, pending the result of the negotiations now proceeding.

REPLYING to a further question Sir John Gorst said that the projected company for constructing the Chittagong-Assam Railway was the only one to which a Government guarantee was offered.

THE Manchester coroner investigated a case lately which disclosed an extraordinary accident on a stage. During the performance of "Romeo and Juliet" by some amateurs in the Manchester Cathedral Schools, the scene in which Mercutio and Tybalt fight a duel with swords was reached, when Romeo, as usual, parted the combatants as Mercutio fell to the ground, saying, "I am hurt. A plague o'both your houses! I am sped; is he gone, and hath nothing?" Both words and action being in the play, no notice was taken of them until blood was seen to be flowing from Mercutio's nose and mouth. He was at once taken to the hospital, but he died before reaching that institution. A *post mortem* examination showed that a sword had penetrated his chest to a depth of seven inches. It had passed through the lungs, penetrated the pericardium and had wounded the left pulmonary vein. The deceased was nineteen years of age. The jury returned a verdict of Death from loss of blood from a wound received while taking part in a dramatic performance.

WHEN the telegram, confirming the massacre of Mr Quinton and his companions at Manipur, was read in the House of Commons, Professor O. MNeil, an Irish member, raised a cheer, and renewed his exclamations of delight, when remonstrated with.

THE *Pioneer* says:—"There appears to be no eradicating the impression, that has been created at home by the circumstantial stories that have been put abroad of Lord Lansdowne's having asked to be relieved of his appointment. *Truth* this week goes so far as to discuss His Lordship's successor, but that may be for the pleasure of having a stab at the Marquis of Lorne, who, the writer affects to fear is in the running for the supposed vacancy. Otherwise it is difficult to believe to accept a statement which has not now, and never had, the least foundation."

THE *Advocate* of Lucknow says:—We do not know who is going to be appointed Prime Minister of the Rampore State in place of General Azimuddin. It is said that a Civilian from the N. W. P., probably Mr. Colvin, might be sent to fill up the vacancy. We hope, Sir Auckland Colvin will not commit such a blunder. It is too much of the meddlesomeness of the officials that has brought matters to such a state. Our Government ought only to see that the affairs of the State are not conducted in a way, prejudicial to our own interests; beyond this it should have nothing to do with the internal affairs of the State.

THE Naval Exhibition in London has been opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales. It is expected that the Exhibition will prove a great and popular success.

Thursday, 7th May

A CORRESPONDENT writes :—" Notwithstanding the declarations to the contrary, there is reason to believe that the present attitude of Cabul towards us is not peaceful. That an advance on Cabul will shortly be decided on is not a chimera. This is the topic that now shares the public attention in India. A correspondent at Meerut writes to say that the question of war or no war with reference to the Cabut embroglio has been much discussed during the last few months ; and from all that can be gathered on the subject, war would now appear to be imminent, and there is every probability of a campaign being undertaken as early as possible. The informations received, during the fortnight from the *Caravans* as well as ' Cabul news' of the Indian papers teem with allusions and remarks on this subject, and from all accounts it would seem that ' our faithful ally and friend" is by no means likely to quietly submit to the demands of our Government. That, on the other hand, it is said, he means to try conciusions with us, is clear from the warlike preparation he is actively engaged in making. Meanwhile, our troops are concentrating on the frontier."

IT is understood that Lord Spencer will succeed Lord Granville in the leadership of the Gladstonian Party in the House of Lords.

PRINCE Bismarck has formally announced his acceptance of the seat in the Reichstag as Deputy for Gestemunde.

AFTER protracted negotiations a treaty of commerce between Austria and Germany has been concluded.

THE fall in the price of cotton at New York is attributed to the belief that the crop this season will exceed eight and-a-half million bales.

THE 1st of May was celebrated by labour organisations by demonstrations and fetes of all kinds throughout the Continent. Everything passed off quietly in Austria, Germany and Holland, and in most of other Continental countries no disturbance arose, but serious rioting occurred at Lyons, Marseilles and Rome, where conflicts took place between the people and the troops, and shots were exchanged, many being injured. At Lyons the mob was only dispersed when the troops advanced with fixed bayonets and loaded cannon. The labour delegates at Paris presented a memorial to the Chamber of Deputies in favour of the eight hours' movement. After the presentation of the memorial a large crowd assembled at the Place de la Conrode, the mob being finally dispersed by gendarmes and cavalry.

SERIOUS rioting by a number of strikers took place on the 2nd instant at Fourmies, a village in the department de Nord, several of the most disorderly of the strikers being arrested. Later in the day the comrades of the prisoners made an attempt to effect their rescue. The officer of the guard was seized, but the troops fired upon the rescuers, seven of whom were killed and ten wounded. The affair has created intense bitterness amongst the population. Two French socialists who were arrested for creating disorder at St. Quentin and Charleville during the labour demonstrations on May Day, were sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

SERIOUS conflicts between the gendarmes and the miners who are on strike occurred at Liege and Scraing. The gendarmes fired upon the strikers, wounding several. Troops are now being hurriedly despatched to the scene of disorder.

ALTOGETHER sixty-two thousand miners in various parts of Belgium are now on strike, and conflicts between gendarmes and strikers are constantly occurring. Dynamite bombs have been exploded on the doorstep of the house of a capitalist at Liege, and at houses of workmen residing in Mons and Roux who had refused to join the strike. In all three cases the fronts of the houses were shattered by the explosions.

A NOTIFICATION, published the *Calcutta Gazette*, announces that the following candidates who have passed the examination held last month for appointments in the Executive Branch of the Provincial Services have been selected by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to be probationers of that service, and will be stationed at the *sadr* stations of the districts mentioned opposite their names, where they will, for the present, be employed under the District Officer on a subsistence allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem :—

(1) Rajani Prosad Neogi, M.A., Mymensing; (2) Jnanendra Nath Chowdhuri, M.A., B.L., Jessore; (3), Rakhal Mohun Banerjee, M.A., Manbhum; (4) Jogendro Kumar Sinha, M.A., Rajshahye; (5) Moulvie Mahomed Shamsuzzoha, B.A., Patna; (6) Nayananjan Bhuttacharjee, M.A., Burdwan. Of the above-named gentlemen the first four obtained the first four places in the competitive examination, and the last two have been selected from among the remaining candidates who were found to be qualified in the examination.

Friday, 8th May.

IT is stated the Reay Memorial Committee have arranged with Mr. Gilbert, A. R. A., for a statue of Lord Reay, which Sir Edgar Boehm was entrusted with.

THE German Emperor's fury knew no bounds, says the *World*, when he learned last week, through his travelling telephone, that five workmen had been acquitted by the courts of the heinous offence of singing the refrain : " William I was an old Emperor, and Frederic III was a wiser Emperor, and William II is Emperor *en voyage.* "

THE Mhow correspondent of a Bombay paper writes in a vein of triumphant exultation that the "salutary lesson which has been given to the staff of the Mhow paper, will be a warning to other journals which are now run on similar lines." On this the *Hindu* of Madras pertinently remarks:—"The account which the Bombay paper publishes is certainly calculated to rouse public indignation against the conductors of the paper under reference. But there is another side to the picture, which the Mhow correspondent does not reveal. We have a clear recollection of the strange encounter that took place towards the close of the year 1889, between Mr Henvey, the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, and the editor of the Mhow paper, Mr. Mahendra Nath Chatterjee. In the beginning of last year we commented upon the incident in the light of the information that was then made public. Mr. Henvey did not receive Mr. Chatterjee's criticism of the administration of Native States under his control with much appreciative sympathy. He even asked the editor of the *Eastern Herald* to leave the Native States alone. From this point they diverged, the one not being able to agree with the other in regard to the duty of a newspaper editor. As a member of the deputation on behalf of a local Association, Mr. Chatterjee had a private interview with the Governor-General's Agent, which terminated in the show, if not actual use, of physical force by Mr. Henvey. The Bengalee, as might be expected, did not pocket this unusual treatment quietly. Of what transpired since, we have no knowledge, for we have not been reading the *Eastern Herald*. But the fate which has now overtaken the editor seems to be but the culmination of the vindictive hatred which Mr. Chatterjee's criticism of the Central Indian administrative policy must have engendered in the minds of the foreign pests in Indore."

A collision occurred on Wednesday afternoon on the Eastern Bengal Railway between Kissengunge and Bagula stations. During a heavy gale of wind two goods wagons were blown from the siding of a roadside station and getting down an incline "ran away." When midway between the two stations named they collided with a passenger train coming from the opposite direction. The driver of the latter noticing the danger from a distance was able to bring his train almost to a stand. For all that the collision was a severe one ; both the wagons were derailed and the engine damaged, but none of the passengers were seriously hurt. The line was blocked, but the energy of the engineering staff removed the obstruction in a few hours.

THE following notice recently appeared in an Amsterdam newspaper :—"We, the undersigned, recently betrothed, an announcement of whose marriage appeared on Sunday, have nevertheless thought it better to think the matter over very seriously, and have determined rather to change our minds than to make a mistake for all our lives. To this end we have decided to proceed no further in the matter, but to put the wedding off for a few days, or to break it off altogether. We take this means of making our resolve known to our friends, kindly requesting them to spare us any further congratulations."

A BOMBAY paper says that Mr. Dadabhai Naorojee's chances in Central Finsbury, which have never been bright since the *Star* turned against him, and Mr. Eve as a second Liberal candidate who has entered the field, are believed now to be less hopeful than ever. Mr. Schnadhorst and the party managers have turned their backs upon the former, because he declined to have his claims submitted to arbitration ; and they are now looking out for a candidate of their own, which is said to mean that the party will lose whatever chance they may have had of winning the seat. Mr. Dadabhai, however, feels that he has been badly treated and means to carry on the contest to the end.

THE dacoit, Ghasita, who escaped from the Mirut Jail, has been captured in the Mozuffernuggur District.

THE Senate of the Madras University will proceed, in the month of July, to elect a Registrar for a term of five years, commencing on the 1st August. The salary of the appointment will commence at Rs. 600 per mensem and rise by annual increment of Rs. 50 per mensem to Rs. 800 per mensem.

Saturday, 9th May.

THE term Theosophy, says a theosophist, means Divine Wisdom. " It is as old as man." It was known under different names at different times in the world's history. In archaic Persia it was called mazdeanism or Wisdom Religion. In archaic India, or rather Asia, it was known as Atma-Vidya, Spirit-knowledge. The Chinese called it Bodhi-Dharma even before the time of Gautama Buddha. The thinking and unbiassed reader will observe that the modern Theosophical Society is simply an effort to resuscitate and unveil the sublime truth about Nature and Man taught some thousands of years ago by our Mahatmas, Rishis and Sages, and promulgated to the public by Christ and Krishna, Buddha and Zoroaster, Plato and Shankaracharya and a host of others."

HERE is a brief *resume* of theosophical teachings as expounded by William Q. Judge, General Secretary of the American Section of the Theosophical Society :—

Man is a composite being, *i. e.* his nature is composed various *tatwas* or principles which are all impermanent and liable to decay. But there is something (*not* a principle) in man, called spirit or atma, which is the only real and permanent part of his being.

The universe is one compact whole, and everything in it is connected with the whole and all its parts. *There is unity in multiplicity and multiplicity in unity.*" Our individual thoughts, words and actions, act and re-act upon the whole and upon each portion thereof. Hence, all entites and kingdoms, whether human or animal, animate or inanimate, are inseparably bound together by the common tie of brotherhood. This is also the philosophy of the *Upanishads*.

Man has got three distinct natures in him, intellectual, moral and spiritual, whose development goes hand in hand with that of the physical body. These three are represented by *sthoola*, *sookshma* and *karana sharriras* in the Aryan philosophy, and are, so to speak, the reservoirs in which the gross, subtile and spiritual experiences corresponding to the three planes of consciousness are noted.

Moral and spiritual development entirely depends upon the control of fleshly appetites and passions, not because they are all necessarily evil in themselves, but because their influence must be annihilated on the higher place of consciousness. Those who are prepared to go through a certain occult or yoga training are alone in a position to acquire control over various finer forces in nature and to penetrate into the dark mysteries of Life and Death. The testimony of such men having acquired powers for transcending those, belonging to the normal state of our consciousness challenges examination from every impartial and unprejudiced thinker.

As the Queen's birthday will be celebrated in India on the 30th May, on Saturday, Friday, the 29th instant, will be kept as a half-holiday, and Saturday as a whole holiday in all Government offices.

IT is stated that the appeal of what has come to be known as the Warburton Defamation case has been dismissed by the Punjab Chief Court, and the Court refused to reduce the amount of damages awarded to Mr. Warburton. The decision was anticipated, and, which is not always the same thing, will be generally approved.

THE frequent disasters in Bombay, consequent on the collapse of jerry-built houses, have attracted the attention of the Corporation of that city, and we see it stated that the special Committee which was recently appointed has just submitted its report, together with a draft of building bye-laws. In submitting their report, the Committee state that, whilst the object has been to adopt, as far as possible, the recommendations of the executive, who are responsible for the carrying out of any bye-laws which may be finally sanctioned, and at the same time to make as effectual provision as possible for the protection of life and property, the Committee have endeavoured to provide for the due protection of owners of property. The first effect of the report, we are informed, is a spirit of opposition which it has naturally engendered in the bosoms of the local architects.

A LARGE number of Natives of Travancore recently petitioned the Maharaja for the recognition of their claim to have a proper share in the government of their country. A reply has now been received which may be regarded as very favourable, though not altogether satisfying to the claimants. The Maharaja says that he will be very happy to give preferment to the people of the classes referred to in the memorial according to the requirements of the public service and the circumstances of the country, and, more than all, according to their individual merit as compared with other classes. In regard to admitting into the Travancore service men from outside the country, the Government, though prepared to offer every inducement to duly qualified Natives for preferment, thinks it may sometimes be desirable to bring in one whose training and experience in the much larger field of the British service is calculated to improve the local service and administration. The Dewan will meet a small deputation from the petitioners, and discuss any plans they may have to lay before the Government.

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 11, 1891.

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

II.

WE gave in our last extracts from Dr. Sircar's speech in appeal for the equipment of the Laboratory for which a splendid building has been supplied by the munificence of His Highness the Maharaja of Vizianagram, and in appeal for the endowment of professorships. The life-blood of a scientific laboratory, as Dr. Sircar has rightly remarked, is constituted by instruments of illustration and of research, and its animating spirit by whole-time professors. When it is remembered that in India scarcely any instrument can be repaired or replaced, and that it is almost impossible that even the humblest and the most modest instruments can be made, it will be understood how much more money must be required to fit a laboratory here than in Europe. And when it is remembered how even European men of science on coming out to India soon find themselves behindhand their confreres at home in knowledge, and how they require to be furnished with the latest scientific apparatus to barely keep themselves *au courant* with the progress of Science in their native lands, it will be understood how Indian professors, who have to begin at the very beginning, will have need of a profusion of instruments of illustration and of research to teach themselves and their pupils. It is when they have mastered the details of their own special branches that they will be able to devise instruments both for illustration and research, and when they can make themselves competent thus far that their researches will bear fruit and culminate in actual discovery. Such being the case, the Association ought to be enabled to spend a "good sum," as Dr. Sircar has said, to fit up the physical and the chemical departments of their Laboratory. And now that the building has been secured (it will be finished and be ready for the reception of instruments before the end of the year), our countrymen ought to come forward with their wonted liberality to supply the building with the necessary apparatus. Raja Peary Mohun Mukerjea and Babu Peary Mohun Roy had each subscribed Rs. 1000, and Moulavi Mahammad Yusuf Rs. 500, in aid of the Laboratory building fund. Now that the whole cost of the building has been borne by the Maharaja of Vizianagram, we trust that these gentlemen will authorize the Committee of Management to transfer the amounts of their donations to the instrument fund. In this they will be only following the example of His Excellency the Viceroy himself, who at the laying of the foundation stone of the Vizianagram Laboratory said:—"I trust that those who but for this decision on the part of His Highness (the Maharaja of Vizianagram) would have contributed towards the building fund, will come forward readily to assist the Association in providing the laboratory, which will be appropriately called after His Highness, with a suitable equipment, and in establishing a fund wherewith to supply our other great need, I mean permament professorships, paid and maintained out of the revenues of the Association. It was my intention to offer you a small contribution for the building fund, and I shall be very glad to transfer it for the purpose indicated." It will be remembered that His Highness the Maharaja of Bettiah, who was present at the ceremony of the laying of the foundation stone of the Laboratory, announced his intention, after the conclusion of the ceremony, to contribute Rs. 10,000 towards the equipment of the laboratory. So that altogether the Association has promise of Rs. 12,500 towards this end, and we may fairly trust that the Viceroy's advice, supported by His Excellency's personal example, will have the effect of inducing many more friends of Science and lovers of their country to come forward towards the same end.

After the equipment of the laboratory, "our other great need," as Lord Landsdowne has very well called the endowment of permanent professorships, must be attended to. This would necessitate, as Dr. Sircar has very rightly estimated, the outlay of a much larger sum than would be necessary for the former purpose. The founder of the Association has been insisting from the very beginning on the absolute necessity of paid workers in order that his scheme may succeed at all. In the sketch that he gave of his scheme in 1875 he said:—"There will be no want of workers if we could only provide for them, and we must provide for them, that is remunerate them properly, if we want to get good steady work out of them. I have no faith in unremunerated workers. We must not forget men must have stomachs as well as minds. The mind must have leisure to think that it may think with any advantage, and this can only be secured by providing for the demands of the stomach. In Europe and America this leisured thinking is secured largely by State and other appointments. In our country such appointments do not exist, and it is chiefly with a view to supply the deficiency and the desideratum that I have been striving to found this Association." We have given this extract in full in order to show that what Dr. Sircar said the other day about the necessity of paid professorships is what he said at the stage of inception of the idea of the Association, and what he has been insisting all along. We entirely go with him. We are strongly of opinion that unless we have indigenous workers in science free from all other anxieties, science will for ever remain an exotic plant, and will never grow and flourish on Indian soil. Science will thus be, if we would only wish it, an opening for many a poor student, and they in their turn will provide openings for vast numbers of their countrymen. How to find out ways and means for the establishment of professorships is the most difficult problem which the Science Association has before it. A lac and half rupees is about the sum which, invested in Government securities, will bring in income for the support of one whole-time professor. As many times this sum will provide for so many professorships. If the whole country were to come to a firm resolve, it will not be long before the Association will have a good number of professors. There are millionaires who can each found a professorship. Why should they not come forward and hasten the day when "India," to use Dr. Sircar's words, "shall regain her lost prestige?" We must gratefully admit that Bengal, and especially the Metropolis, has done much for the cause of science. But it must be equally admitted that much more could have been done which has not been done. We see only the names of a few millionaires on the subscription list, and it is their names which recur on different occasions. How many there are who can come forward very liberally, but have not done so! What more convincing proof do they require of the utility and the importance of the Association than the testimony, in eloquent, earnest and often impassioned words, borne of that utility and importance by successive Viceroys who have been its patrons, and by successive Lieutenant-Governors who have been its presidents?

But it is not our millionaires alone who are to blame for their apathy and indifference to the Science Association. The institution has not met with that appreciation from the bulk of our community which it was expected in the beginning that it would. This means the apathy and indifference of the educated classes, who are and ought to be the proper representatives of the country. Education has not, it is true, reached the masses. But what increasing numbers of graduates are being turned out year after year by our universities! To them the advantages of Science cannot be unknown, and the supreme necessity of science-cultivation in this country cannot be a matter of doubt. And yet we do not see that they have moved in the matter adequately to their numbers and to their culture. We do not see that they have come forward either with their purse or with other help at their easy command. We do not mean to say that there are not honourable exceptions, but how few, how solitary these exceptions are! We do not exaggerate when we say that we have scarcely found a single graduate who has tried to persuade others to help the institution. If our graduates had shown any earnestness in the matter, and acted the part of the missionary in the cause of science, the Association would have worn a different and brighter aspect. The rules for membership have placed it within reach of everyone with moderate income. Dr. Sircar has drawn attention to them in his Appeal for funds with which he prefaced the twelfth annual report. "By payment," says he, "of the trifling sum of Rs. 24 a year, which means Rs. 2 a month, any one can become a member of the Association and thus directly and indirectly help in the cultivation of science in this country." Every hundred and fifty such members would enable the committee to employ a whole-time professor, which means a man who will be able to devote himself to the experimental study of a particular branch of science and deliver regular lectures in it to a class and to the public. "Is it too much to expect," asks he, "that at least five hundred persons in the Metropolis, and five hundred more from the country generally, may, for such a purpose, the purpose of enabling the Science Association to have permanent professorships, become ordinary members of the Association?" Here is an easy method of increasing the revenues of the Association. What is it that prevents its adoption?

MR. C. E. SCHWANN ON INDIA.

MR. C. E. SCHWANN, M. P. for Manchester, and Mrs. Schwann made an extensive tour in India during the past cold season. They visited almost every place of importance in the country and were present at the Sixth National Congress. On return to England Mr. Schwann recently gave an address on India to the members of the Manchester Geographical Society. We find that he referred to the measures now being carried out with the view of strengthening the defences of the Empire, and declared that such a *thing* as the invasion of India by Russia seemed to him perfectly ludicrous. He then proceeded:—"He was not, however, a military man, and his opinion was worth little or nothing. But he looked at the fact that Turkey as nearly as possible defeated Russia in their last conflict, and that Russia was at a tremendous distance from her base of operations and her resources. Of course aided by serious disaffection in India, she might become dangerous; but he believed that "though the Hindu might not love the English, he was not so stupid or bereft of intelligence as to prefer to the conscientious, if sometimes mistaken, Government of our English Civil Servants, aided by numbers of native officials, the grasping savagery and peculation of a gang of needy Muscovite bureaucrats." There is much sound sense in these observations. We do not, however, agree with Mr. Schwann and those who think with him that the idea of a Russian invasion of India is ludicrous. We are no Russophobists, but at the same time we are strongly of opinion that our rulers are bound to take every reasonable precaution against a Muscovite invasion of this country. That Russia entertains designs against India cannot for a moment be doubted. The whole course of her policy in Central Asia proves this fact to demonstration. Whether the Will of Peter the Great, of which we hear so much, really exists or not we cannot say; but it is beyond doubt that the late General Schoboleff went so far as to prepare a plan for the invasion of India. That there will one day be a struggle between England and Russia for supremacy in Asia may be taken for granted. It is certainly the duty of our rulers to be well prepared for that struggle. This does not, however, mean that we approve all the measures which are being taken by the Government of India to strengthen the defences of the Empire. As Mr. Schwann rightly holds, the opinion of a layman on this subject is worth little or nothing. But there is good reason to believe that the Government of India is too much in the hands of its military advisers, and takes for gospel truth whatever they recommend. As Mr. Bryce has pertinently observed, the military advisers of the Indian Government should be

compelled to prove before a body of experts that what they propose is absolutely necessary for the defence of the Empire. It is true that Turkey as nearly as possible defeated Russia in their last conflict; but that is no reason why the Muscovite should be looked down upon as a contemptible enemy. Russia has greatly improved her armed forces during the last ten or twelve years, and she is one of the greatest military Powers of Europe. We readily admit that there is much force in Mr. Schwann's observation that aided by serious disaffection in India Russia might become dangerous. The Muscovite has, somehow or other, persuaded himself to believe that the Princes and people of India are so discontented with British rule that they would welcome him with open arms as a deliverer. It is one of the articles of the creed of the war party in St. Petersburgh and Muscow that the appearance of Russia on the Indian frontier would be a signal to the Princes and people of the country to rise against their English rulers and to join the invader. It was, indeed, upon this assumption that the late General Schobeleff framed his plan for the invasion of India. When that plan was first published we showed conclusively that its basis was quite untenable. The Princes and people of India have many grievances which demand redress. But they know very well that their countrymen will for centuries remain under foreign rule; that the English, notwithstanding their many sins of omission and commission, are the best foreign rulers that they can possibly have; and that they have everything to lose and nothing to gain by a change of masters. So long as this conviction exists in their minds, the Princes and people of India, however discontented they may be with British rule, will never dream of exchanging it for any other. Self-interest alone, if no higher consideration, will make them throw in their lot with their English rulers in the event of a Russian invasion of India.

It appears that during his stay in Lucknow Mr. Schwann visited some of the Opium-dens in that city, and it is generally believed that his vivid description of them greatly influenced the recent Opium vote in the House of Commons. In the course of his speech under notice he said:—"In Lucknow lived many reduced families of the ancient Nawabs of Oudh. If report spoke truly some of those families and their hangers-on were not only not models of propriety, but had the reputation of being much demoralised and degraded in their tastes and habits, and opium-smoking had given the *coup de grace* to many among them. Opium-smoking was *par excellence* the vice of the vicious and the incentive to licentiousness, but in that it did not differ much from alcoholic drink. From all account, however, opium caused a deeper degradation of body and mind, and if his informants were to be believed, in many cases was the immediate cause of madness and often distortion of the limbs and countenance. He was particularly anxious to learn what was thought in Lucknow about that, because whenever opposition was raised in England to the opium traffic, it was always urged that the pictures of physical deformity brought by Dr. Legge and others from China were frauds and that opium used to ward off fever, and was most beneficial in its effects, &c. Against such opinion he would set the deliberate opinion of his Lucknow friends that opium was a curse and the destroyer of honour, health and happiness. The wealthy Mussulmans who practised the use of opium had a room in their houses set apart for smoking opium and they invited their friends to join them in the stupefying process. The poorer classes smoked in opium-dens, and a visit to one of them was instructive, if not edifying." Of course, opium taken to excess is injurious to both body and mind; but so is the excessive use of alcohol. Granted that the effects of the drug, when used to excess, are most lamentable and are even more prejudical to health than the excessive use of alcohol—though on this latter point there is much room for difference of opinion—it has certainly not been proved that, as a matter of fact, opium is more injurious to the great body of opium-smokers than are spirituous liquors to the great body of those who use stimulants in England or in any other European country It is, indeed, difficult to exaggerate the amount of poverty and suffering of every kind which is caused in Great Britain by drink. But this is conveniently overlooked by the sentimental philanthropists who would suppress the Indian opium trade altogether, but would leave the English liquor traffic untouched. Inspite of what the anti-opium fanatics may say to the contrary, it had yet to be shown that the use of opium is more injurious to the system than spirit drinking.

In the concluding portion of his speech Mr. Schwann dealt with a subject of great practical importance. He referred to the administration of justice in India, and observed:—"Mal-administration or miscarriage of justice came in only when the race-feeling of the Anglo-Indian portion of the community was called into play. Justice between Hindu and Hindu or between Hindu and Mahomedan, was impartially administered, and no genuine complaints arose on that head. It was when an Englishman was in the dock that English juries and, he was sorry to say, Judges seemed to lose their heads. The Jameson revelations had prepared the public to comprehend how Englishman could degenerate when living long with more or less civilised or uncivilised races, and to understand why Anglo-Indian writers and gentle Anglo-Indian ladies could never talk of the execution of a Native without saying that another nigger had been polished off, nor of the execution of an Englishman—when a conviction could be obtained against one, which was not easy however glaring the crime—without its being said in indignant terms, that another "Englishman was to-day strangled to death in public." Sad experience has produced a firm conviction in the minds of the people of India that Europeans are above law and the British-born subjects may murder niggers with impunity. Our countrymen cannot be blamed for this, for they see that whenever a European is accused of killing or of grievously hurting a "black bastard," he either escapes scot-free or is let off with a small fine. Mr. Schwann, we are glad to find, bore testimony to the gentle manners of the Hindus as a rule, and to their good temper and good behaviour, even when assembled in the streets in vast crowds. He thus spoke of the treatment which the mild Hindu too often recieves at the hands of his English rulers:—"Martial heroes, fresh from the cricket-fields of Eton, their thews and sinews built up on the roast beef of old England, had nothing but lofty scorn for the emaciated limbs of a submissive peasantry fed upon rice or millet, and daily exposed to the rays of a burning sun. The shady habits of the Natives were dilated upon in every term of reproach, and the embezzlement of a Native Bank clerk was descanted upon with virtuous indignation by Anglo-Indians, who conveniently forgot the Redpath, and the coolies and the secretaries of building and benefit societies who too often disappeared with funds which did not belong to them, even in this immaculate country [England]. He supposed that the Hindus were no more free from faults than any other nation, and that oppression by the Moslem and climatic influences would tell their tale on character, but in every country there were infinite varieties of character, and no one could justly draw an indictment against a whole nation. If the Indian people needed guidance, all the more was it incumbent on their fellow subjects to show sympathy for their weakness and ignorance." These noble words we commend to the average Anglo-Indian who has nothing but contempt for the children of the soil. Hindus have certainly faults; but these faults cannot be removed by abusing them and calling them all sorts of names. That is surely not the way to reform a people.

MR. PINCOTT ON THE POVERTY OF INDIA.

Our readers must be familiar with the name of Mr. Frederick Pincott. Although he has never been to India, he takes a keen interest in the advancement and welfare of its people. He is, indeed, a sincere friend and well-wisher of our countrymen, and loses no opportunity to serve them. Mr. Pincott is a staunch Conservative; still he is a warm supporter of the National Congress movement, and deeply sympathises with the political aspirations of the educated Indians. He has recently had occasion to express his views on the great question of improving the material condition of the people of India, and these are entitled to careful and attentive consideration.

Mr. Pincott begins by pointing out that the widespread poverty of India is a source of sincere regret to every friend of the country, and a topic of unceasing complaint on the part of the Indians themselves. "The causes for this universal poverty," he goes on to say, "have exercised the wits of many earnest thinkers, and several more or less wise or foolish schemes have been proposed to mitigate the evils resulting from it, and to remove the supposed causes. No good result has hitherto been effected chiefly because the suggestions for removing the evils have been, for the most part, mere suggestions, emanating from people who have neither the time nor the practical knowledge to enable them to grasp the details of the intricate subject, and to formulate workable projects for substantial improvement. An opinion prevails among Indians, that the present poverty of their country is all due to the Government. This is a pure error. There can be no doubt that good legislation, properly administered, will do much to increase the material wealth of a country; but, after all, the operations of the Indian Government must ever remain insignificant in the face of the great facts with which we are now dealing. For all practical purposes the prosperity of India is in the hands of the Indian people themselves. They have only to realise the conditions of the problem in order to make real progress towards its solution." We readily admit that to a certain extent the prosperity of India is in the hands of the Indian people themselves. But it must not be forgotten that in their efforts to increase the material wealth of their country they are hampered by two insurmountable difficulties—namely, want of capital and adverse legislation. It is almost superfluous to say that there can be no accumulation of capital in a country which is subjected to such heavy drain as India is under British rule. It has been calculated that during the past forty-five years India, in her foreign trade, has been drained to the extent of 450 crores of rupees. We would ask Mr. Pincott and those who think with him to consider carefully what that vast sum would have meant, with its value at compound interest, if left to fructify in the land where it was earned. Indeed, it is no exaggeration to say that by the annual drain of the resources of the country England has practically left the Indian people resourceless. New industries cannot be established without capital; but where is capital to come from when the income per head of the population is only Rs. 27, which is hardly enough for bare maintenance. But even if capital were forthcoming, the British manufacturer will not allow Indian industries to flourish if they clash with his interests. As soon as Lancashire found that cotton-mills were being successfully established and worked in India, she demanded the abolition of the Indian import duties. The duties were swept away, with the result that the consumption of Manchester goods since the abolition has vastly increased. But for the remission of the cotton duties the new mill industry would have progressed by leaps and bounds. Then when Lancashire discussed that her goods were being driven from the markets of China and Japan by the productions of Bombay mills, she began to agitate. for the introduction of factory legislation into India, and her efforts in this direction have to a great extent been crowned with success. India has no friends; she is utterly helpless. She must submit to what is good for the British

merchant and manufacturer. Her own colonies put heavy duties on her manufactures; but India is too weak to make herself heard, and what is good for British trade is done irrespective of the needs of the people and of the country. Mr. Pincott, we hope, will now clearly see that the prosperity of India is not entirely in the hands of the Indian people themselves, as he supposes.

It is admitted on all hands that a purely agricultural country like India can never be wealthy. Mr. Pincott rightly points out that agriculture is a most limited and fickle means of raising wealth. In the first place, even with superior methods of cultivation, the limit of production is soon reached; and in the second place, the success of agriculture depends entirely on weather, which is wholly beyond the control of man. "Manufacture, however," observes Mr Pincott, "supplies the means of support to a surplus population. The advantage of manufacture is that the very density of population which produces poverty among agriculturists provide the ready labour for the successful prosecution of manufacture. The two methods of acquiring wealth are indeed, complimentary to each other; but are in a satisfactory condition only when manufacture is carried on with sufficient activity." All this is very true; but their manufacturing industries cannot be established in India on a large scale for the reasons explained above. Mr. Pincott also speaks of commerce as an excellent means of acquiring wealth. He says:—"Indians must themselves engage in manufacture and commerce; and the subject to which patriots should devote most serious attention is the best means of increasing all commercial and manufacturing industries. * * * Intelligent Indians must discover what material resources their country possesses which can be turned to account in the manufacture of useful articles by the millions, for the supply of the daily wants of other folk at a cheap rate. Of course the feeble and the timid will complain of want of capital, but in truth very little capital is wanted to start a business, more especially in a country so undeveloped as India. Capital will soon grow out of profits, and success on a small scale will soon attract capital to profitable ventures. Cotton spinning, which is now fairly established in India was started quite recently without great capital. Intelligence and enterprise are much more wanted than capital." There is no doubt some truth in these observations; but the difficulties in the way of the introduction of manufactories are so great that they cannot be easily overcome. The system in which India is now governed must be radically changed before it can become a wealthy country.

THE MANIPUR AFFAIRS.

DEEPLY as we deplore the continued reticence of Government respecting the Manipur affairs, we cannot welcome too gladly the news telegraphed by Reuter that the question has attracted Parliamentary attention. A discussion of the causes leading to the recent disaster at Manipur took place in the House of Lords on the night of 1st May, in which Viscount Cross replying to Lord Ripon said that he did not believe that the Government of India ever intended that the Senapati should be summoned to a Durbar for the purpose of being arrested, and he would be greatly surprised if that was what has been done. His Lordship added that papers relating to the Manipur question, would be presented to the House when complete. Later on, on the 4th May, Sir John Gorst, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that the papers on the Manipur question, comprising the instructions given to the late Chief Commissioner, Mr. Quinton, and all the communications, which had passed between Viscount Cross and the Government of India, would be presented to the House, when the despatch, now on its way, was received. These assurances guarantee no doubt a full and final disclosure of all that yet remain unrevealed in the late expedition to Manipur, and we need not therefore press the question any further upon the Government of India.

In the meantime, we might, however, remark that, as pointed out by the *Statesman* of the 7th instant, there are two important and entirely distinct positions in the Manipur question, between which the entire burden of responsibility attaching to the affair will have to be divided. The general order for arresting the Senapati and the particular plan formed for effecting his arrest do not necessarily go together and must be carefully distinguished. They may have proceeded from entirely different quarters, though they might also be proved from the same. It is *prima facie* evident that the arrest of the Juvaraj was a sort of *coupd'tat*, for which the Supreme Government must be solely responsible. But the responsibility of the other position may or may not attach to it. We are not yet prepared to hazard any definite opinion on that point.

Arguing so far with our comtemporary, we shall, however, join issue respecting its statement that the responsibility attaching to the one position is less than the responsibility attaching to the other. To our mind, "the policy of arresting and deporting the Senapati may have been not only utterly wrong and high-handed policy," but must have been from a *moral* point of view, and with reference to the inviolable principles of International Law, as "disgraceful and dishonorable" as the particular plan alleged to have been adopted for carrrying it out. Both are breaches of trust, and hence equally culpable, and it makes little difference whether that trust exists amongst nations or individuals, and whether it is implicit or explicit.

If there formerly existed any doubt whatever about the *Englishman's* announcement that a deliberate plan had been formed to arrest the Juvaraj after inviting him in open Durbar, there is now no room at all for such doubt, seeing that a contemporary publishes a statement to the same effect proceeding from one whose reliability cannot be questioned. To those also who would be too apt to connect Mr. Grimwood with the policy and the plan of the arrest, this statement would prove as a valuable antidote. It runs to the effect that on the 15th of March, Mr. Gordon arrived at the Residency at Manipur, having been sent forward by the Chief Commissioner, presumably to make enquiries and gather information. On the 16th, he closely questioned Mr. Grimwood regarding Manipur affairs. Mr. Grimwood was well posted on the subject and gave all the information sought for; but from first to last he was studiously kept in ignorance of what was the object of the Chief Commissioner's coming and for what purposes he was being questioned. On the 17th Mr. Gordon left to rejoin the Chief Commissioner and on the 20th Mr. Grimwood went out to meet him at Sengmai. When there, he was for the first time and in strict confidence, told by the Chief Commissioner, that *it had been determined to arrest the Juvaraj in open Durbar* and deport him from the country, and he was informed to his dismay that his was the hand required to execute that office. In reply to Mrs. Grimwood, sometime before the catastrophe, the Chief Commissioner informed her that the reason of the arrest was that the Government of India could not allow any one except themselves to make and unmake Maharajas, and since the Juvaraj was such a power in the country, he must, for reasons of State, be sent out of Manipur. We have observed before and must observe once again that in the face of such a deliberately treacherous plan formed to arrest him, the Juvaraj cannot be held guilty of any disobedience, if he repeatedly evaded being present at the Durbar on the alleged ground of illness.

The Statement further goes on to say that on the 23rd instant, when the Chief Commissioner recognised the futility of all attempts to secure the attendance of the Juvaraj at the Durbar, he sent Mr. Grimwood to inform the Juvaraj of the decision of the Government and to peremptorily require him to leave the country. For three hours Mr. Grimwood strove in vain to pursuade the Juvaraj to leave the country. He stolidly refused saying that he had done nothing to deserve banishment. We now see that all that was necessary to drive this powerful man to desperation was done, and it may well be said in his defence, that a mere instinct of self-protection led him to adopt the offensive measures he did.

Now that a Commission of Enquiry has been established, our readers might naturally feel curious as to how punishment is being meted out. The correspondent of the *Pioneer* assures us that there is not any desire to wreak indiscriminate vengeance. On the contrary, there is less sternness in the orders and proclamations than might have been expected. Through the exertions of Major Maxwell, the Political Officer, confidence is being restored, and whereas there were not a score of inhabitants within six miles around Manipur when it was captured, inhabitants are increasing in pretty large numbers. There are none yet at hand who can be made to expiate the crime committed on that terrible night of 25th March. The four princes have fled with their personal followers. One member of the Durbar only is near at hand, the Tongal General, an old and decrepit man. He could not have played any active part in the massacre, though he has been for years an ardent advocate of Manipur independence. The army that fought that night, was recruited from the cultivating classes; they rose for a time in response to the trumpet call of war and have again settled down into their original peaceful lives. Those who looted the Residency and desecrated the graves of the British officers have not yet been secured. One of the dragons in front of the Palace, "and over which the blood of the British officers was sprinkled was blown up on the 30th April with dynamite. The second dragon was also blown up on the next day. The main gate towers of the fort have also been blown up, this gate being considered a specially fine one by the Manipuris. Proclamation was issued by General Collett on the 30th April that any subject of the late Regent found in possession of arms, seven days after the proclamation, would be subject to the punishment of death or transportation. He has also ordered the immediate return of the property looted from the Residency and return of cash, notes and stamps stolen from the Treasury. Any balance unreturned will be levied from the villagers in the valley. It is stated that a Manipuri has been captured on the Tammu side whom the villagers declare to be the actual murderer of Mr. Quinton. The man was severly wounded by three bullets, but it is not known how he received them. The Kukis who destroyed the bridges on the Kohima road have been tried by Major Maxwell, and their village has been heavily fined. A safe conduct has been sent to a Manipuri of the ex-Raja, Sura Chandra and his son, a boy of thirteen. They fled some twenty miles away, but are now anxious to return. They will be permitted to do so and to take up their residence in their own village.

The event that is at present stirring the public interest at Manipur is the pursuit of the fugitive princes. At first they were in a single body with their personal followers, and, as reported by us in our last issue, had fled towards Kungul Thana, near Chasaad, in the Kuki country. But news has since been received that they have separated and are scattered about in small bodies. It is highly probable that the Maharaja may be captured or may voluntarily surrender himself to General Collett in Manipur, as there is no doubt that even if he is sheltered by the Toukools, he does not consider his life safe and he will possibly perfer to stand a fair trial. The Senapati's movements cannot well be guessed at. Those who know the man best state that he will in any case make good his escape. He is reported to be full of energy and resource, active, and a good horseman. The third brother is Angaon Singha and the fourth is a boy of fourteen or fifteen years of age. Captain Dewar and Lieutenant Eustace, who had pursued them returned on the 30th April from the pursuit. They did all that could be done, but the fugitives had too long a start. The pursuers found marks of a very hurried flight. On the 2nd May, a hundred men of the 43rd Goorkhas went out in search under Captain Dun and Mr. Mitchell. A messenger has arrived from Captain Dun, asking for more rations and adding that a report has been received stating that the Raja has not yet

reconciled himself to surrender, while the Juvaraj is expected to offer resistance. Cholera is, in the meantime, gradually gaining ground in the British camps, in consequence of which arrangements are being made for the return to India and UpperBurma of the greater portion of the troops that formed the Manipur Field Force. The garrison will be reduced to what will probably be its permanent strength for some months to come, *viz*, some 2000 men with No. 6 Mountain Battery.

MUNICIPAL RETRENCHMENT.

THE *Statesman* had sometime ago the following refreshing paragraph :—'The local Government, it is said, have under consideration the question of the imposition of a new municipal tax on property in Calcutta, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the up-keep of an efficient fire-brigade in this city and the suburbs.' We do not know if there is any truth in the rumour. It is said that the Government has appointed a Committee to enquire into the matter. The Municipality charges special license fees on jute and other combustible articles for the protection of the trade in which the Brigade is particularly serviceable. Calcutta being the ostensible seat of Government, Government also ought to contribute, as they do with regard to the London Brigade. Perhaps some one in authority is enraged at the "10 or 11 per cent. general rate" being rejected and a 9½ per cent rate being adopted in connection with the recent Municipal Budget. Hence perhaps the idea of vengeance. With proper retrenchment the rate ought to suffice, and we are glad to notice that retrenchment is not to be neglected after all. We understand that on the motion of Babu Lal Behari Bysack, a Committee, composed of Nawab Abdul Luteef, Rai Durgagati Banerji, Babus Nalin Behari Sircar, Priyanath Mullick and Lall Behari Bysack, Pundit Prannath Saraswati and Moulvie Budruddin Haider, has been appointed to examine the details of work done both by the in door and out-door establishments of the Municipality, and to report if it is possible to effect any, and, if so, what, retrenchment without impairing the efficiency of the establishment; the Committee has also power to suggest re-organisation. There are some sturdy iconoclasts on the Committee, and we trust its labours will be more successful than those of the recent Bombay Municipal Retrenchment Committee, the failure and shortcomings of which Mr. Watcha, the great Congress statistician, has been bemoaning so loud.

Municipal appointments in Calcutta are notoriously high-salaried and lightly worked, and are preferable to Government appointments or stools in a merchant's office. The Engineer's Department and the Health Department harbour many a sinecure—whom the Retrenchment Committee ought to find out and without affecting the pay or prospects of those now actually in office, a scheme for gradual retrenchment might easily be effected. With intricate grade schemes and pension rules the expenditure is on the increase every year, and no wonder that 11 per cent. general rates and new fire-b rigade rates are wanted, and perennial insol vency predicted for non-compliance with the execut ive demand. By the way the pension rules contemplate levying of contributions which is being totally neglected, though pensions will have to be paid all the same. Provident funds answer well enough in railways; but our Corporation, which is rich enough to keep up differences and distinctions between bustee conservancy and general conservancy, must like Government have an all-round pension system.

The supervising staff under the Health Officer has of late been increased enormously without any material good to the public or any appreciable return for the same. The oppression of underlings has increased proportionately, and the complaints of the rate-payers remain as unattended to as before. Under the present system three sets of men do the cleansing work of the same road or street under three highly paid supervisional staffs, whereas with a little increase of dhangars and coolies who really do the work it could easily be managed more economically and with better results than with one set of men looking after the sweeping, the other department going to the same spot and looking after the scraping, and a third set of men supervising the same spot as to the removal of the refuse. One good supervising staff would be quite sufficient, if held responsible, for the portion allotted to each of them to look after the thorough cleansing of refuse scrapings and everything falling on the same tract as well as removal of the same. With this view and for other necessary reforms reorganization of the whole establishment is indispensibly necessary, and the best endeavours of the Retrenchment Committee ought to be directed towards it. The Committee, we notice, is not quite as strong and as representative as it might have been. The omissions in this direction, we trust, will be rectified.

Latest News and Notes.

AT a meeting of the Legislative Council on the 14th instant a Colonial Court of Admiralty Bill, India, will be introduced and formally passed. All other business will be purely formal, substituting Sir Alexander Miller for Sir Andrew Scoble in Committees and other matters.

THE Maharajah of Durbhanga has, it is said decided to manage the raj himself, and with that view has settled up with Mr. Llewhellin, who is, on his way to England. His Highness is to be sincerely congratulated on this excellent decision. We hope the estate will immensely benefit by his own immediate supervision.

THE Municipality has taken up the merchants complaint about the Tramway lines, in fact it had anticipated it. A Sub-Committee of the Corporation was appointed in 1889 and they required certain improvements on pain of prosecution, which have been effected by the Company. Others have been directed or taken in hand and are being proceeded with. In reply to the merchants' representation, Mr. Lee, the Chairman of the Corporation, observes : "It seems that the lines throughout the city are being gradually got into better order, but the pace of improvement is not fast enough, and the question is how best to quicken it." The working of the Company is a matter worth enquiring into in the interest of the tram-travelling public, for a little "quickening" is required in this connection also. We have received numerous complaints which we do not propose to deal with for the present, in view of the promise of the Company to improve.

THE Magisterial enquiry into the cases of Benares rioters has been completed for all except a few unimportant ones. Ten committals to the Sessions have been made, but it is understood that the Judge took up the cases in six batches. The Sessions trial commenced on Wednesday, the 30th April. The first case taken up was that of Hari Ahir, the man who cut down Sita Ram's servant and two constables. He was charged with attempt at murder and has been sentenced to transportation for life. A medical certificate was produced showing that the wounded men were not in a fit state to attend the Court, and the Judge considering it inadvisable to delay the trial when proofs against the accused were supposed to be clear, decided in accepting the evidence of the wounded men taken by the Magistrate in the presence of the accused. The Assessors found the prisoner guilty of only wounding Bisseshur Misser, the constable, and not with intent to kill, and considered it had not been proved that he had wounded the other two. The Judge disagreeing, convicted the prisoner. The trial discloses an amount of irregularity of proceedings that calls for Government or the High Court interference. The Judge has certainly not been vested with martial law and there was no warrant for indecent haste.

THE following is said to be the key of the failure of the Calcutta Volunteers to cope with the fatigues of the Manipur journey :—

It is stated that a detachment of Goorkhas were a day ahead of them, and that in his anxiety to overtake them, Captain Cox made a needless effort to prove what he and his men were capable of performing.

It was foolish, indeed, for our Eurasian and West Indian friends to pit themselves against hardy and trained Goorkha soldiers who are a thousand times their better. But as the *Indian Daily News* observes, however, experience must be bought, and in this case luckily the price paid was not heavy.

BABU GOURDAS BYSAK, who is well-known for his antiquarian researches, contributed to the last number of the *Calcutta Review* an able and interesting paper entitled "Calcutta and Kalighat." He examines all current theories on the nomenclature of the metropolis of British India, both in the light of philology and of generally accepted facts, and concludes that none of the prevailing explanations is satisfactory. He, however, does not start any theory of his own, the present article being a sort of ground-work for the purpose. Babu Gourdas has at his disposal a mass of materials on the subject upon which he is closely at work. His example may well be commended to many a younger worker whose energies and resources are frittered away on fruitless pursuits. The development of Babu Gourdas Bysak's theory in this connection will be looked forward to with interest.

THE Miranzai expedition is being attended with better success every week. The narrow defile in which are situated the chief villages of the Sheikhan tribes have been attacked and forced. Engineers are busily engaged in destroying the fortified towers that guarded the position in the defile. This speedy retribution upon the clans for their treachery on the 4th of April, when they attacked parties of the 29th Punjab Infantry, who were guarding the coolies engaged on the construction of the roads on the Samana Range, and drove them off with such heavy loss, has had a most salutary effect, and already jirgahs have come in craving forgiveness. The General refused to receive these deputations until the rifles carried off on the 4th of April and the mules taken when the convoy was recently attacked near Sangar are restored. This restoration has been made, and the tribesmen are said to be astounded and utterly subdued by the prompt action that has been taken against them, and the seeming ubiquity of the troops employed against them, and no further resistance is anticipated. Altogether about fourteen towers were blown up during the expedition. Many of the villagers are now returning to their homes from their places of concealment among the mountains, which shows plainly that the general desire of the people is to renew a peaceful existence. When once active opposition has ceased, the construction of the fortified posts along the line of the frontier is at once to be proceeded with, and a strong fort to hold 300 men is to be built on the Mastaon plateau, besides other posts of less importance at various points along the Samana range.

INDIVIDUALS of the Akazai tribe have shown signs of hostility, and have been lurking about the Hazara field force camp. General Hammond visited Billiani to destroy forage, and captured some sheep and goats. A few desultory shots were fired. A night raid was made on the British Camp at Seri, but no casualties are reported. Parties moved out and destroyed the villages of Najorian, Lari and Dari, from which direction the raiders came.

SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT is commendably anxious to respect public opinion on all possible occasions, to enquire into all cases of oppression or high-handedness, particularly where Europeans are concerned, and to take the public into con-

fidence as to the results of any enquiries that Government may think fit to make in connection with them. The other day His Honor took prompt notice of a report in a contemporary that a number of European soldiers of Dum Dum had insulted a native lady in a railway compartment, and after due enquiry told the Press that there was no truth in the report. The following Official paper sent round for publication will also point to his Honor's sustained endeavours in the same direction :

At Marabkati, a village in the district of Backerganj, a native boy, Samsuruddin, aged about 17 years, has met with his death under the following circumstances :—

On the morning of the 12th instant, Mr. Maccable, the Chief Engineer of the steamer *Behar*, which was anchored in the river near Marabkati, accompanied by Mr. Barr, went ashore to shoot. The former alone had a gun. Several natives gathered round to see the sport, and the deceased boy, Samsuruddin, interested himself in pointing out doves to the sahibs. After several birds had been shot at, Mr. Barr noticed a dove on a distant tree. Mr. Maccable could not see it, and Samsuruddin got over a low ridge between the field on which Mr. Maccable stood and an adjoining field nearer to the tree, and called to Mr. Maccable to follow him. Mr. Maccable hurried forward with the gun at full cock in his right hand. Just as he was stepping on to the ridge, his right foot slipped on a very slippery bit of soil and he came down on his right side ; the trigger of the gun caught in a crack of the ridge and the gun went off. The charge (No. 8 shot) hit the boy, who was only about four yards ahead, on the side, and he fell. Both Mr. Maccable and Mr. Barr did their best to stop the flow of blood from the wound, but their efforts were of no avail, and the boy died immediately.

While Mr. Maccable and Mr. Barr were engaged in doing what they could for the boy, a number of villagers collected and began to assault them, and then seized them, bound them to trees with chains, pulled their moustaches, and spat upon them. They were kept bound for some time, and afterwards detained in a house, until the Sub-Inspector of Jhalakati police station arrived the next morning, when he promptly released them and took them both on board the steamer. Mr. Maccable immediately after the accident offered to pay Rs. 100 to the mother of the deceased, but the villagers demanded Rs. 500. He sent for a currency note of Rs. 100 from the steamer and handed it to the villagers with another paper, which purported to be a promissory note for Rs. 400. They took the currency note and "promissory note "to Nalchiti village in order to get them cashed, but failed.

The Magistrate of Backerganj, hearing of the occurrence at noon on the 14th instant, at once proceeded to the spot with the District Superintendent of Police and made investigation. On the 14th they went to the place where the accident had occurred ; and recorded the statements of the villagers who were eye-witnesses of what took place, and on the following day they went on board the steamer and heard the statements of Messrs. Maccable and Barr as well as of the Commander of the vessel, Mr. Allen. The statements of Mr. Maccable and Mr. Barr agreed in every particular with those of the native eye-witnesses as regards the accident and the death of the boy. As to what had happened subsequently there was some divergence of testimony. The villagers denied the use of force, but admitted that they had detained the sahibs because there had been a *khoon*, for which some one must be responsible.

The Magistrate returned the so-called "promissory note" to Mr. Maccable, but at his request caused the currency note to be cashed with a view to the money being made over to the mother of the deceased. The investigation proved beyond doubt that the occurrence was purely accidental.

Enquiries and publications of this sort tend to allay popular alarm and dispel illusions, while it also ensures careful research on the part of those who take upon themselves to spread these reports. It also has the excellent result of encouraging people to bring to light all cases of *Zulum* in the sure hope that the ruler of the province will not sleep over the matter, but will cause due enquiry to be made and the necessary steps for relief taken. Publication of the detailed results of enquiry may also lead to people on the spot pointing out to the authorities if the enquiry has been faulty or defective in any way.

THE Tarkessur rioting cases have been dismissed as they could not but be. There were two cases and two judgments were delivered by the Deputy Magistrate trying them, from which we make the following extracts :—

Having regard to all the facts of the case, the Magistrate could not persuade himself to believe that the real object of the riot was what the prosecution alleged. There was no doubt that an attack was made on the outpost and a trespass made into its compound by a band of fanatical devotees, who threw the missiles alluded to above. Having determined that a riot took place, the question of identification then arose. In the present case it appeared to the Magistrate that the persons sent up were not the real rioters, but were persons arrested on suspicion, and if they were in the crowd they were there as idle spectators, and not as rioters. The Magistrate said he was not justified in such a case, on such evidence as he had alluded to, to draw up a charge against any of the accused. He, therefore, ordered the defendants to be discharged.

In the second case the Deputy Magistrate observed :—

The Joint-Magistrate went to the place, and ordered the arrest of the accused and another, and called on them to show cause why they should not be bound down to keep the peace. They showed cause, and on the 15th of April were discharged by the Joint-Magistrate, who at the same time ordered the Police to institute a case under section 147 against the accused, and to take him over to the Missionaries for identification. This was how the present case arose. The Missionaries alleged that they made no reflections, and said nothing to offend the feelings of the Hindus, but in cross-examination one of them was forced to admit that he did try to induce the Hindus to become Christians ; that he did draw comparisons between the two systems of religion ; that he did point, to some extent, to the evils of Hinduism. From the midst of the crowd the accused was said to have thrown a brick at the Missionaries, which led to his arrest. Referring to the charge, the Magistrate went on to say that it must be shown that the assembly was an unlawful one, and that the common object was to commit an offence, and that force or violence was used. Nothing of all this was proved. The brick was not produced, and no one swore that the accused used it. A Hindu religious festival was in progress, and this case arose from the action of the Missionaries. It would have been more becoming, the Magistrate was constrained to add, if the Missionary gentlemen concerned had acted with more forbearance and left the scene when they found their voices were drowned, and when they saw a large gathering shouting the name of "Hari" and one preaching Hinduism, instead of thinking of making an arrest with the aid of the Police. Under these circumstances the defendant was ordered to be discharged.

We perfectly agree with the Deputy Magistrate. The missionary gentlemen may be taken as the most sensible people present at these disputes, and if they realize their position and use a little tact instead of displaying fanaticism on their part, these disputes can never occur. Peaceable, unoffending and law-abiding as the Hindus always are, it is too much to expect them to hold their peace when they have assembled in large numbers for religious observances of particular merit, and hear their gods abused in their very presence and to their very face so to speak.

A STUPID *canard* has been going the round of the morning papers that an Honorary Magistrate was weak enough to shift into another room in the Calcutta Police Court, on Thursday last, because some witchcraft had been sought to be practised to influence his judgment in the shape of parched rice (*khoi*) being sprinkled on the bench by either of the contending litigants in an assault case in which some midwives were concerned. The constable in charge of the room had indeed been won over by a "present" of four annas and allowed the "medication" as they call it in Bengali, which was soon found out by the Registrar who got the room swept clean before Mr. N. C. Bural, the Magistrate, made his appearance. He did take his seat in another room at the suggestion of the Registrar, Moulvie Badiruddin Haidar, not because the Moslim, or the Hindu, was afraid of "witchcraft", but because the inner room was much cooler and is used whenever available. The case was compromised, and the suggestion here again is that one of the parties had a fit in the witness box as a result of the medication. The fact was that the accused is subject to hysterics, as she had pleaded before, and she simply demonstrated the truth of her statement before the Magistrate.

WE regret to notice that the proprietors of the *Star Theatre* and their late writer and manager have fallen out to the extent of going to Court. It appears that Babu Girish Chunder Ghose's connection, which was renewed not long ago after he left the Emerald Theatre, ceased in March last, and a rival Company was formed under his guidance, who have been giving performances of his plays in the houses of native gentlemen. The last of these performances was intended to be given at the residence of Babus Nundolal Bose and Pasupatinath Bose of Bagbazar The proprietors of the Star Theatre strongly objected, to the proposed arrangement ; and Mr. Jackson instructed by Babu Gonesh Chunder Chunder moved the High Court on Saturday last on their behalf for an *ad interim* injunction prohibiting the intended performance. Mr. Justice Wilson to whom the application was made, while admitting the plaint and granting a rule *nisi* refused to make the order for *ad interim* injunction. His Lordship thought that the plaintiffs had not been sufficiently diligent in preferring their claim to exclusive right as several representations had been already given by the rival Company. Nor did his Lordship think that a sufficiently strong case had been made out for such a stringent order considering that the guests of the brother Boses who must have incurred considerable expenditure in getting up the representations would be very much disappointed. Babu Grish Chunder Ghosh and the *Star Theatre* have been instrumental in raising the status of dramas and dramatical representations in this country, and it is to be hoped in the interest of histrionic art that this unfortunate dispute will be settled out of Court and that our stage may not sustain any loss thereby.

THE *Indian Daily News*, like most of the newspapers on the one side or another that have commented on the subject, highly disapproves of the indiscretion that the Congress authorities have been guilty of in allowing a questionable critique to preface the report of the Sixth Congress, which we noticed some time ago. Our contemporary justly observes :—"The Committee of the Indian National Congress—if that body has had any voice in the matter, as it ought to have—would have exercised a wise discretion by suppressing almost the whole of the fifty-five pages of the "introductory article" which prefaces the official record of its sixth annual convention. The saving in printing charges is not the only, or the most important, reason why the course suggested would have been wiser than the one adopted of giving this foolish paper to the world with the imprimatur of the Congress governing body." But the fact seems to be that the governing body never had an opportunity of expressing its opinion on this now historic document one way or the other, and our contemporary rightly takes this as another illustration of the great art of "how not to do it." We do not, however, like our contemporary, desire to go behind the scenes, though, like him, we very much regret the attempt to set the Congress against itself. The manner in which this is done in the "introductory article" is thus described by our contemporary :—

After an endeavour to account for the sameness ordinarily observable in Congress "discussions" by claiming that this "marvellous unanimity" (as he styles it) results from the submission only of proposals "in regard to which the whole country has come to a substantial agreement, in regard to which the people of all provinces, of all races, castes, and creeds, are practically of one mind." This is probably meant for Home consumption. In India most people who are likely to read Mr. Hume's article will understand that his statement needs a very large grain of salt, knowing that there are few, if any, questions that the Congress has brought forward upon which such a "practial unanimity" exists. But Mr. Hume himself proceeds to give a very practical proof of another reason why differences of opinion which may exist even within the Congress seldom find expression. He shows that criticism of Congress proposals by Congress members is not expected or welcomed. A member of the Congress must resign his judgment and conscience to the keeping of his "leaders," and must agree with everything they propose. At least, if he does not, but ventures to have and express an independent opinion of his own, he must face the prospect of being treated with scant courtesy. We will quote from Mr. Hume's introduction to the Sixth Congress report a sample or two. On the question of the salt-tax, a member ventured at the last Congress to move an amendment to the cut and dry resolution approved by the Subjects Committee. This is how the mover and seconder of the amendment are treated in the official report of the Congress :—

'Mr. [Deva Prasad Sarvadhikari's speech was not devoid of cleverness ; he had a bad case and was absolutely ignorant of the salt question, and yet he spoke fluently for about a quarter of an hour, making at least some semblance of defending his amendment. To his worth as a lawyer his address may not do discredit, but where his heart as a citizen is concerned, the verdict must be different. To the astonishment of all present Mr. R. D. Mehta, of Calcutta, rose to second the amendment. He clearly had never considered the subject. * * He appears to have been actuated by a chivalrous feeling that every opinion ought to have a hearing, and that as no one *else* would second the amendment, he would.'

We have an allusion also to "the fallacy of Mr. D. P. Sarvadhikari's verbal meanderings (they really cannot

be called *arguments*)." The fine courtesy of these comments is only equalled by the cordiality of the encouragement they give to freedom of debate in the Congress gatherings. We hear a good deal at times from lights of the Congress on the value of freedom of speech and the iniquity of restricting such freedom; but apparently the sentiment depends, with some of these gentlemen at least, on the occasion. In another respect the official introduction to the official report of the Sixth Congress offends against the canons of good sense and good taste (which are really synonymous terms) and tends to keep alive, unfortunate prejudices whose existence, in the unreasoning form they take, is not likely to serve any good purpose, and certainly not to advance the cause of the Congress itself.

The extract is somewhat long, but it contains many a blunt truth which the Congress leaders would do well to lay to heart betimes, for a serious crisis may be soon at hand. The Congress does sadly need to be saved from some of its friends, and very good friends too, and all the tact and judgment and moderation that we can possibly muster and master will be called forth to avert the crisis. That the Congress has a noble mission and useful career before it, not even its bitterest enemies would deny, and the *Indian Daily News* thus describes the situation: "The notion of creating a popular body to draw the people of the widely scattered provinces of India together; of enlisting the numerous races and creeds of the Native population in the pursuit of a common object for the benefit and advancement of all; of providing a medium for public discussion of public questions which would place the Government, here and at Home, in possession of the views of the educated and intelligent section of the people of India—this idea was a great one." Great as the idea is, greater must be the powers of execution to carry it into effect with success, and the present leaders of the movement will be answerable to posterity for generations to come if by their indiscretion, hastiness, individual idyosincracies, or error of judgment, it is in any way damaged, injured or thwarted. A recent letter of the Government of India took the trouble of differentiating it as a liberal movement in opposition to the prevailing conservatism of the country. If this left-handed compliment, which is the key-note of the cold attitude of Government and the officials towards it, be taken in earnest and swallowed, the Congress will lose much of its usefulness. It is conservatism that has to be reconciled and liberalised, and a proper combination of the two forces at work only can lead to the stability of the Congress and augment its powers for good. He would be an enemy of the country and the cause who by his go-aheadism would do aught to estrange general sympathy.

We are glad to hear that Babu Radhika Raman Chatterjee of Tajhat, Rungpur, has, with the permission of the Government of India, undertaken the translation into Bengali of Sir W. W. Hunter's *Imperial Gazeteer*. Raja Govindalal Roy of Rungpur has patronised the undertaking with a donation of Rs. 1000, and Maharaja Bahadur Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore K. C. S. I. has consented to be a subscriber. The undertaking is laudable, and we hope will meet with the encouragement it deserves.

We have received a copy of a pamphlet from Messrs. C. Ringer and Co., Homœpathic Druggists, Chemists, Booksellers &c., of No. 10 Hare Street, giving a price list of Homœopathic medicines, and a long list of books and other requisites for sale at their Establishment. The pamphlet is neatly got up and contains useful directions for treatment of various maladies. Messrs C. Ringer and Co., we learn, have just received from the celebrated firm of Messrs Bœricke and Tafel a large supply of Homœopathic books, drugs and medicines. Their stock is varied and fresh, and we doubt not they will meet with the patronage they deserve.

We have recieved a copy of the fourth Report of the Kambuliatola Boys' Reading Club. We are glad to notice that this useful institution is making steady progress. We congratulate the Committee on their being able to secure Mr. H. H. Risley, as President for the current year.

Correspondence

[From our own Correspondent.]

London, April 10, 1891.

England and the Border disturbances.

Since I wrote last telegrams have been pouring into the country giving us all kinds of contradictory rumours about the events happening upon the Eastern frontier of India. As if the Manipur rising were not sufficient bad news we hear of an attack upon a British force by the Chins and the loss of men and officers; and that these people are giving trouble on the Bengal side too; information also reaching us that a punitive expedition is being arranged against them. On the opposite side of India we are told that sharp fighting has taken place, near the Afghanistan border, where several tribes have risen and in an engagement with whom the 29th Regiment has lost a number of men in killed and wounded.

Truly, amongst all this alarm, the more alarming because we have no certain information, we need all the self-possession and courage as a race which we flatter ourselves we possess. That we feel uneasy is quite certain; but it is a characteristic of ours to quietly endure this state of mind, unpleasant though it is, whilst the facts are slowly impressing themselves upon us with an irresistible movement. Then what has secured almost stoicism is apt to give way and, we present the spectacle of a people in the highest degree emotional and carried along by storms of over-wrought feeling. Then it must be confessed we are in danger of being foolish and doing things of which we feel ashamed afterwards. At present at any rate we are in the sensible stage; and even those who did not usually take too flattering views of our conduct and attitude confess that we are bearing ourselves well in a position which may be full of danger, rendered more irksome by reason of the fact that we are so much in the dark as to what proportions it may ultimately assume. I will quote the opinion of the french paper, the *Republique Francaire*, because it does express exactly in what state of mind we have been whilst these distressing reports have been coming in thick and fast upon us. This journal says:—"It is impossible not to admire the *sangfroid* with which public opinion in England and India has received the intelligence of the Manipur disaster;" and it remarks that a very different effect would have been produced in other countries by such an event. One of our own papers, if I may be excused quoting what no doubt comes better from others, says that despite the gravity of the crisis the situation is discussed calmly and that there are no detestable coalitions between party rancour and hysterical opinions. And it adds, to encourage us in our well doing, that England, which has founded the greatest Colonial Empire in the world, knows that it is retained only by coolness and continuity of policy whatever this latter expression may mean. How cruel the position is even apart from political consequences, may be understood from the telegrams which have arrived this day (April 9th) professing to confirm what we shrink from believing the account of the murder of Mr. Quinton and his fellow prisoners; whilst we are told at the same time that these reports of native spies must be accepted with reserve. But we are also told that a letter from the Juvaraj himself contains this news. Then we have received with a shock the statement that if this massacre has taken place it is by way of revenge for outrages inflicted by the British force on women and children, and for the desecration of temples. We are told of women and children being thrown into the flames of burning houses, with other horrors. This we dread to believe, and as the letter containing this news is also the one containing the other news of the murder of Mr. Quinton and his companions we are loth to pledge ourselves to the belief in any of this information.

Sir James Fergusson on behalf of the Government has told us that whatever news had reached them officially had been forwarded to the newspapers and that he is not able to add anything; but that if the House wished to know anything of the causes of the affair he could give it in a very brief form. At the request af Mr. George Campbell he did so and this is the official version. The affair was caused entirely hy domestic differences between the Maharajah and his brother. The Maharajah being alarmed for his safety took refuge at the Residency and subsequently made an act of abdication, and retired from the territory to the State, leaving affairs in a condition in which it was not thought prudent by the Government of India to allow them to remain. Accordingly the Commissioner of Assam went out to place things on a proper footing, and met with resistance from the brother of the Maharajah, who has commanding the troops. Measures will of course be taken, he added, to restore order and place the government of the State on a secure footing.

Complaints are made that the India Office has been behindhand with information and that the Telegraph Companies have forwarded news in advance of the Government sources. However this may be, it cannot be said that the Government has enabled us to understand what forces are really at work in producing these disturbances. Before long we shall no doubt have the matter thrashed out in Parliament; but certainly as yet it is too soon to raise this question. We must wait until we learn the actual facts before we can discuss their causes. On the first news of the matter there was an uneasy consciousness that the passing of the Age of Consent bill might have something to do with it. To what extent the feeling against that measure had gone, and what might be the form which such

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Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil—Its Unequalled Efficacy in Consumption and Wasting Diseases.—Dr. Henry Hanks, author of "Consumption its Treatment and Curability," writes—"The superior efficacy of Dr. de Jonh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil over the Pale Cod Liver Oil has proved, in my experience, unequivocal. Patients who have persisted for several months in the use of the latter, with scarcely any perciptible improvement, have, after a brief trail of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, acquired such fatness, and those distressing symptoms accompanying emaciation have so rapidly subsided, that I have been induced to confide in its reputed remedial powers, and consequently to advise its substitution for the Pale Cod Liver Oil," Benjamin Clarke, Esq., M. R. C. S. E, L. S., author of "Notes and suggestions on Cod Liver Oil and its Uses," writes—"The effect of the Pale Oil on the circulation is so feebly marked as not to be perceptible; so that in some cases of extreme dedility, the patient, from the slowness of its actions, is in danger of sinking from exhaustion, or the disease, as in consumption, may become incurable from protraction. My inference agrees with the remark that Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Oil effects a cure in half the time that the Pale Oil does." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, Pints and quarts, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Law Lecturer of King's College, London (J. H. Scaife, LL.B.), says (Jan., 1891): "Invaluable for examination purposes and as a sound training of the Memory." A Cambridge University Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle, M.A.) was (Jan., 1890) "Much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great benefit for your leesons, though at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Physician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, &c., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal S. C. "'Excellent' travelling companion."—Capt J. B. Haye, R. N. "Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-ud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, O. B. "Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct., 1887. "The audience (representative of the learned Professions) was most enthusiastic." *Glasgow Herald*, 5th March, 1891. Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th Feb., 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil, Rs. 76; Ten pupils Rs. 10 each. Apply to F. Fisk-Williams, 71, Elliot Road, Calcutta, or to A. LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

A most wonderful Testimonial given by the celebrated Doctor Hudellet:—"Seventy fevers treated by Labarraque's Quinium Wine have been cured before the 3rd dose. Not a sole individual having used it as a preservative has contracted fever, before or during his sojourn in the swamp countries."

Extract of observations addressed by Doctor Regnauld to the "Union Medicale:"—"Madme A—of Bourbon, aged 28 years, had fever of diffeyent types for 18 moths. She had taken an enormous quantity of sulphate of quinine in powder and pills, so much in fact, that her stomach could not tolerate more, even associated with opium. She showed all the symptoms of swamp cachexy (the worst kind of malaria), swellings, on the face, enormous stomach, spleen tripled in amount. The stomach was so fatigued that it could not support sulphate of iron; this salt provoked colic and an extreme repugnance. It was under these conditions that I prescribed Labarraque's Quinium Wine which had only been before the public a short time. As little familiarised as I was with its effects, I was not a little surprised by the prompt and complete manner in which it triumphed over Madam A—'s fever, who since then has not had a relapse."

feeling would take was a mystery which the average Englishman is totally unable to penetrate. "Anything may come from anything" is a non-philosophical dictum which he feels may be in Indian affairs a profound truth. He was not quite sure of what he had been doing lately in interfering with Indian religion and custom, and who knew what the consequences might be? Hence this and the political entrigues of the Congress" presented themselves as quite possible explanations of a state of things where his discrimination was not sufficiently cultivated to ensure a solution satisfactory to his own mind. Perhaps we are now more inclined to take the view of the "*Daily News*" of the matter. It says "it is unlucky that we should have had to interfere in Manipur at all, the policy of leaving native chiefs to settle their differences in their own way and recognize the one who comes upper-most in the scrimmage has almost always succeeded where it has been fairly tried. Then it goes on "this rising and that of the Cains are both closely connected with the annexation of Burmah and show how much more serious an undertaking it was than what Lord Randolph Churchill led the House of Commons to believe. Of course we all know what the result of Mr. Quinton's defeat and murder will be. Manipur like Burmah will, under whatever conditions and forms Lord Lansdowne and Lord Cross may prescribe, be annexed to our Indian Empire and governed with benevolent despotism by Englishmen. It is sometimes inevitable in India to go backward or to go forward. Retreat means loss of the moral force with which India would have either to be reconquered or abandoned. But although the acquisition of Manipur may be necessary since the annexation of Burmah yet there is danger in this step. It will add an additional tax to the energies already fully occupied in governing India; our responsibilites will be multiplied and those will cause fresh embarrassments however they may be pleasant to our pride." No doubt "it consumes with that self complacency of the Englishman, which makes one ashamed as he thinks of such terrible facts as are set out in "the present number of "*India*" by Mr. Seymour Keay M. P. and by other writers. "No doubt then inhabitants will be the better for the change, since British rule is superior to any other form of Indian Government, but the interests of the mother country cannot always be postponed to the welfare of Oriental races. Unless we are to embark upon endless liabilities beyond the present frontiers of the British India a check must be put upon further interference with the affairs of Native States. We do not say that the present Indian Government with its calm and sensibie Viceroy is actuated by anything like the spirit of Lord Lytton. But it would be none the worse if it had more sympathy with the spirit of Lord Lawrence."

I suppose some such answer as this would be given by the "man in the street who was asked what he thought of the events that had been happening in Manipur and what was likely to be their consequence and it is on this account that I have made use of the *Daily News*." Already indeed it is said that the Government of India will advise the Home Cabinet to annex Manipur, and this is regarded as the reason why the punitive expedition, which we understand is being sent to Manipur, is so large.

The "*Daily Telegraph* in commening upon a later telegram which has been recieved from the Viceroy denying the charges made by the Juvaraj against our forces, and also informing us of certain successes gained, which, as it remarks, is the first piece of encouraging intelligence that has reached us since the trouble began, expresses a similar openion to that of the *Daily News*. It says "another 'little war' successfully waged and satisfactorily ended will have been added to the long roll of these Imperial incidents; another wave will have dashed against the impregnable breakwater of our Indian dominions to waste itself in foam and spray, and to send back again with dark and ever heaving waters from which it sprang; and that is all".

With respect to the risings on the North-West frontier a question has been asked in Parliament whether the large military expeditions to the Miranzai country, the Black Mountains and other places on that frontier are in pursuance of a policy of advance sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government in this country, or were undertaken by the Commander-in-Chief in India with the permission of the Government of India on his own responsibility.

Sir James Fergusson has replied to this that these expeditions are not in pursuance of any such policy nor has that policy been sanctioned by the Government. They are punitive and pacificatory expeditions undertaken not by the Commander-in-Chief in India on his own responsibility but by the Government of India, subject to the sanction af the Secretary of State.

The duties members of Parliament of India.

In the present issue of "*India*," which will be sent by this mail, there will be found several articles to which I have incidentally referred and to which I would call the attenion of your readers. The first is entitled "the Spoliation of India: How it is brought about." It is by Mr. Seymour Keay, M P. The other is one on "Indian Government Statistics and statements: Are they trustworthy?" More heart-rending accounts of the condition of millions of human beings were never given than are contained in these articles; more appalling charges of recklessness and unmanagement of the resources of a country were never made, nor a more fearful indictment of a system of Government than that which describes it as "the most scientific instrument of national torture that the world has ever seen."

Now these people are British subjects, this country is under our sway, the system is ours, and the administrators of it are Englishmen. The man who makes these charges to an English member of Parliament and is in relation with other members of Parliament whom he has, or one would conceive should have, the power of impressing with the immense gravity of the facts which he details at length in magazines and news-paper articles. That he believes what he is teaching, that he is moved by indignation and pity in detailing the facts upon which he formulates his charges must be taken as undoubted. Is it then enough to discharge his duty that he should be content with treating the matter as an academic question which affords scope for eloquence and elaborate manipolation and nothing more: or is he not bound by his position to accept the responsibility, enough it must be confessed to startle the conscience of any man, however strong he may be, of adopting some practical mode of action even if in so doing he should incur misunderstanding, suspicion or it may be hatred? These are the reflections which must occur to any one reading Mr. Seymour Keay's article and I do not wonder that "India" puts the issuse to Mr. Keay in this form "Your indictment is a most terrible one. If what you say is correct, the Government of India ought at once to be put on its trial and compelled to make its defence, if any defence be possible. We confess to a feeling of amazement that you have not made more powerful use of your position and influence as a member of Parliament. We know all the difficulties in the way of adequate action being taken on behalf of India by a private member, but in the presence of calamities like these difficulties should count for naught. Inasmuch as you have not risen to the height of a Plenisoll, who incurred ridicule for his outbreak in Parliament on the subject of British coffin ships, or a Biggar who made himself a nuisance there on behalf of Ireland, we are compelled to say you have failed in your duty towards India. You know the real state of affairs and there is no excuse not even that the House of Commons is moribund and the vast majority of members utterly careless of their duties." What "*India*" says to Mr. Keay may be said to other members of Parliament, and there are some, who know the facts. A great responsibility is upon them. Mr. Bradlaugh felt it; and as "*India*" says, it is almost certain that where he pleased the Government or displeased it, whether the whole Liberal party would or would not have praised him, whether he had few or many at his back, he would in this very session, have made so great a disturbance in the House that a Commission must of necessity have been appointed.

Where is the member strong enough and magnanimous enough to perform as a religious duty and under sanctions which Mr. Bradlaugh did not admit, but which are professedly all powerful with those who do admit them, what justice and love of his fellow-creatures would not have permitted him to neglect.

In reference to the article on Indian Government statistics, I may mention that I was much struck by the statements of the speakers who took part in a descussion at the Society of Arts on the 9th of April on "Indian Village Communities with special reference to their modern study." The gentlemen who spoke were Anglo-Indian Civilians and they all agreed upon making a distinction of this kind, namely that the revenue officer's reports upon the circumstances of the villages, although collected and made with care, zeal, and ability, could not be relied upon when they took the form of Statistical Returns of the Government of India. There was no explanation given of this but there was agreement in this representation of the fact. One could not help recalling Sir Henry Maine's statement that "Indian Governments find their account in obscurity."

There is not much for remark in Mr. Baden Powell's paper itself. It was as interesting as such a complicated subject can be supposed to be made, dealing for the most part with it as a historical question about which there are so many theories not readily comprehensible to the average man The main thesis was a denial of Sir Henry Maine's too restricted conception of the origin of the Village Community, and the statement of the necessity for a wider classification of such communities. The suggestion was made that the Government should be asked to appoint a particular officer to get up the subject fully in consultation with local officers and produce a good work formed upon a thorough examination of all possible sources of information.

The Labour Commission.

The political significance of this Commission has been already described in former letters. The selection of the persons who are to sit as members has given use to a good deal of difficulty. Each party wishes to have its own members appointed as far as possible; and there has been much skirmishing over the matter. An attempt has been made in the House of Commons to obtain an answer from Mr. Smith as to the composition of the Committee, but he has declined to give the least information at present, and has only promised to give the names in the course of next week. A special difficulty has arisen over the name of Mr. Michael Davitt, the famous Irish peasant leader, who for so many years has been a prominent personage in all Irish movements. A question was asked directly of Mr. Smith if Mr. Michael Davitt had been appointed a member of the Commission. The ony answer to this was that it was no usual to make any statement as to the names of gentlemen who are included or excluded until the whole of the names are finally submitted to the House. But it is in fact an open secret that Mr. Davitt has not only not been asked to serve but that his name has been positively excluded. As he is the chosen representative of the Anti-Parnellite party it may be imagined that this refusal of the Government to accept his name is likely to lead to a squabble in the House. Report has it that the refusal has placed on the ground that Mr. Davitt's well-known Republican principles and teaching unfit him, in the opinion of the Government, for holding Queen's Commission. But this is almost too improbable to be credible. Then it is also said that the fact of Mr. Davitt having been a convicted Fenian and in open rebellion during the Fenian disturbance in Ireland, and still more the fact of a letter having been produced before the late Commission rendered famous by the Pigott disclosures, which was interpreted as containing an incitment to murder but of which Mr. Davitt gave an elaborate account in explanation, are causes of his rejection. Whatever the reason may be, there is no doubt that he must be far from being a persona grata to the Unionist Government; but it is very doubtful whether they have given any particular reasons for the course they have taken. Although his nomination was thus refused the Government instructed that the question of appointing an Irish member was still an open one and they suggested that some other name should be sent in. To this the leaders of the McCarthy party replied that they had no other name to propose. As Mr. Parnell is said to be of opinion that some person should be appointed who has taken no active part in politics they are not likely to trouble themselves to propose such a person even though as Mr. Parnell puts it, he "has the confidence of both sections of the party. Such a rara avis would hardly be found in Ireland and the McCarthyites will, therefore, prefer to stick by Mr. Davitt. Another effort will be made to secure Mr. Davitt by Mr. Mc Carthy who is expected to put a question again to Mr. Smith with the object of raising a discussion by a motion for adjournment if the reply is unsatisfactory, and a number of Gladstonian members have intimated their intention of supporting this motion of the speaker should allow it to be made. In all likelihood it will not be permitted. Since the above was written I have heard that Government has of its own motion appointed the Secretary of the Irish National Labour Federation to the post.

The Successor to Lord Granville.

In my last letter I spoke of the many points of intellectual resemblance between the late Lord Granville and Lord Rosebery, and if I did not mention that his appointment as successor to the late Liberal leader in the House of Lords was very likely to be made I intended to do so. Every one admits he would free the pest admirably; and there are few of our young generation of statesmen of whom higher hopes are entertained. He is one of the most admired and popular of those who have followed Mr. Gladstone in his just policy and though he has never sat in the House of Commons he may be said to be almost the Scotch representative. He is a Scotch peer and has perhaps more influence in that country than any other man who could be named, his fellow countrymen always having delighted to honour him and taken a remarkable interest in his career. He established his reputation as Foreign Secretary in Mr. Gladstone's 1886 administration and in a humbler but very important office—that of Chairman of the London County Council; he extended it by the able manner in which he guided that body's first efforts to fulfil the extensive powers conferred upon it and similar bodies by the

Local Government Act of 1883 which has worked what may be described almost as a revolution in our municipal affairs whose effects have hardly yet begun to make themselves fully felt. He has that attractiveness of manner and personality which distinguish men of the first rank and he has succeeded in making himself as interesting to the mas.es of the English people as he long ago did to those of his own country. However, it is understood that Lord Spencer, the well-known Irish Viceroy, under whom Irish affairs were being administered when the Home Rule Bill was brought forward and who has been so loyal to Mr. Gladstone all through the stormy times since, will succeed to the leadership not only of the opposition at present in the House of Lords but also be Mr. Gladstone's successor in the leadership of the party in case of Mr. Gladstone's decease. This latter succession of course depends on many contingencies which no one can foresee and it can only be spoken of as matter of gossip. Whenever the occasion arises it will not be the least of the many difficulties which the party now called Gladstonian will find itself involved in.

Two pending Elections.

There are two vacancies at present which will in a short time bring about further bye-elections which are always looked forward to more or less anxiously as indications of the feelings of the country, and this must be taken to mean the feelings of the country as the Irish question. Before a fight this is taken for granted ; unless one party wishes to discount a defeat which it fears cannot be averted. After the fight there is always an amusing effort made to show that after all other questions have had more to do with the result than the perennial one of Home Rule. One of the two seats now vacant is the Woodstock Division of Oxfordshire with which Lord Randolph Churchill's name was a few years ago so closely associated ; that constituency being looked upon almost as the possession of the Marlborough family of which Lord Randolph politically, and the Duke of Marlborough socially, are the most distinguished members. The other vacant seat is in the city of London and has become vacant by the death of Mr. Baring of the great Banking House of Baring Brothers whose threatened collapse was so recently averted by an extraordinary combination of the Bank of England and a syndicate of other city Banks. As to the result of the city election there can be no doubt for it is conservative and unionist to the marrow. The Woodstock election is somewhat more doubtful. In 1885 before the split, when the issues were the ordinary ones between Liberals and Conservatives, he was elected as the Liberal member by a majority of a little over 200.

Lord Dufferin as Lord Rector of St. Andrews University.

The speech of Lord Dufferin to the students of the St. Andrews Uuiversity, one of the annual seats of learning of Scotland, is rather a literary event than a political one. The Scotch students elect their Rectors from all classes of distinguished men—politiciancs, scientific men, poets, literary men of all kinds, although sometimes the elections in the cases of politicians are taken to have a political significance. As a rule, however, they are not treated seriously in this respect and they are more often used as a kind of very light offensive weapons in the strife of parties where they make more noise than they inflict injury. When once the Rectors are elected, even though they are politicians, they sink party politics in their speeches. If Lord Salisbury were elected in all probability he would give a dissertation on "recent advances in electrical science" or something of that kind ; we might have an academic discussion on Economies from Mr. Goschen and the "influences of the French Revolution would not be an unlikely topic for Mr. Morley. In the same way there are no politics in Lord Dufferin's address, which is a brilliant literary lecture on a variety of subjects such as education, oratory, the respective merit of Greek and Latin and so on. Everybody has expressed delight at its charm and freshness ; but there is one passage in it which does not appear to have attracted as much attention as one would have expected. It contains a very unpleasant comparision between the position of Athens in the ancient world and our position in the modern system of nations. Of course it is very flattering to be compared to Athens but at the same time rather alarming when Lord Dufferin tells us what may happen as a consequence. He says speaking of the advantage of a knowledge of the Greek language and literature : "Where else will you obtain, otherwise than in the stories of the Creek States, such a marvelous or instructive rehearsal of the course and possible contingencies of modern European politics ? Put Russia or America for Macedon, Germany and France for Thebes and Sparta : England for Athens : China for the Empire of Darius, and you see at a glance what may happen to an Empire like ours. Like Great Britain, Athens was a small mother country, with a splendid maritime jurisdiction and important colonies, some of which turned against her in the day of trouble, while her absolute existence, the food of her people, her revenues, and her commercial wealth depended on her command of the sea. She loses a single naval battle, and her imperium is for ever shattered, the violet crown falls from her brows, her foremost citizens are either executed or sold into slavery, and her name as a political entity fades from the page of history."

This is a very alarming prospect and if I could have done it myself I should not have dared to write such an unpatriotic prophecy ; but as it is Lord Dufferin who is responsibie for it I have ventured to quote it. The only consolation is that which may be obtained from the analogy itself as pointed out by Lord Dufferin. We should be no worse off than our neighbours. Macedon is at least as dead as Athens ; and Thebes Sparta, and the Empire of Darius have equally disappeared ; so that Russia, America, Germany, France and China will pass into space along with ourselves. I suppose nobody expects we shall last for ever ; and if we are not to be more unhappy than our friends that at any rate is some comfort.

Perhaps after all there is not much encouragement to the "rebellious spirits of the Congress in Lord Dufferin's ominous deliverance.

Our Census.

Our ninth census has been in progress during this week, the first having taken in 1801. Whether we are in a state of decadence a not it is not likely that this will appear from the facts which it will disclose. On the contrary, very probably it will show us in a more prosperous condition in a multitude of social matters than we have ever been before. Our population increases, but there is no doubt that our wealth keeps more than pace with it ; and inspite of much poverty there is, on the whole, an improvement in the condition of large classes of people who are recieving more attention from their rulers than has been known for many an age in our history. We are not even troubling ourselves very much now about the probability of over-population as we did some years ago. A very recent report of the Colonisation Committee assures us that we need not alarm ourselves about this at all, taking into account the general classes of the people, though here and there in certain parts if our island there are conjested districts, and it will not sanction a cry which used to go up for a system of State emigration. But then we are having a period of good trade and we are enjoying our whisky and our beer in very copious draughts as Mr. Goschen informs us though we know it well enough ourselves.

One of the things we expect our Census to tell us however is to what extent our workmen in town are suffering from the foreign invasion of the hordes of pauper immigrants who we believe are inflicting much injury upon our own workmen in a variety of ways. Another of the things which some of us wanted to know, but which we have not been allowed to learn by the Census, is the comparative strength of the various religious sects amongst us. But the nonconformist have been against it, because they feared that immense numbers of people who neglect religious observances altogether would be returned in the Census as members of the Established Church. That they are nominally ; but not in the effectual sense of being influenced by the clergy of the Established Church. In the argument for disestablishment this fact is much insisted upon ; and the nonconformists would not agree to an enumeration which might be used to their disadvantage.

In some other respects the columns of the census papers are not so complete as they ought to be ; but on the other hand information will be obtained upon certain matters such as the character of the dwellings in which the poor live, which has not been supplied before. In the coming years further endeavours will e made to make the returns more complete ; and it s understood that instead of the census being decennial, as it has hitherto been, it is to be a quinquennia one.

Extract.

THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE,

Held, Thursday, 30th April, 1891.

Present—*Members* :—

The Hon'ble Sir Charles Elliott, K.C.S.I., &c. &c., Lieut.-Governor of Bengal, President, (in the chair)

The Rev. Father E. Lafont, S.J., C.I.E., (Vice-President)

His Highness the Maharaja of Bettiah, K.C.I.E., Nawab Abdul Lutif, Bahadur, C.I.E., Hon'ble Justice Gurudas Banerjee, D.L., Rai Radhika Prasanna Mookerjee, Bahadur, Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mookerjee, Raja Rameswar Malia, Bahadur, Babu Iswar Chunder Mitter, Babu Jadu Lall Mullick, Babu Jadu Nath Mookerjee (Medical Practitioner) ; Babu Docowri Ghose, L.M.S., Babu Nilmani Mookerjee, Babu Ram Akshya Chatterjee, Rai Prasanna Kumar Banarjee Bahadur, J. Ghosal Esq., Babu Anurup Chandra Mookerjee, Babu Hem Chandra Ker, Babu Chandi Lal Singh, Nawab Mir Mahammad Ali, Moulvai Muhammad Yusuf, Babu Ananda Charan Chatterjee, Babu Nabin Chandra Pal, Babu Probodh Chandra Chatterji, Babu Jadu Nath Ray, Babu Saroda Prasad Ray, Babu Amrita Lal Sircar, Kabiraj Brajendra Kumar Sen, I. C. Bose, Esq., M.A., B.L., Babu Khetter Mohun Bose, B.A., Babu Nilmani Kumar, Hon'ble Dr. Mohendra Lal Sircar, M.D., C.I.E., Hon. Secy.

Amongst the guests present were :—

Hon'ble Justice R. L. Tottenham, Dr. W. J. Simpson, M.D., Capt. J. W. Currie, Priv. Secy. to his Honor the Lieut.-Governor, Moulavi Abdur Rahaman, Eabu, Ashutosh Mookerjee, M.A., F.R.S.E., Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, M.A., B.L., Babu Umesh Chandra Dutta, B.A. H. M. Rustomjee, Esq., Babu Jogesh Chandra Dutta, Syud Amir Hossein, C.I.E., Babu Srinibash Ghose, Babu Bepin Vehari Ghosh, M.A., B.L., Babu Atal Bihari Ghosh M.A., B.L., Babu Sashi Bhusan Sen, B.A. T. N. Mookerjee, Esq., Babu Ram Brahma Sanyal, Moulavi Miarazuddin Ahmed.

The proceedings of the last annual meeting were confirmed.

The Honorary Secretary announced the accession of two life-members, Babus Probodh Chandra Chatterjee and Saroda Prasad Roy, who have each subscribed Rs. 500 in aid of the Association.

The Honorary Secretary, on being called by the President, read the following report of the Committee of Management for the past year :

Report for the year 1890.

1. The Committee of Management beg to submit the following report showing the progress the Association has made during the year 1890.

2. During the year the following subjects were lectured upon :—

Physics, by Rev. Father E. Lafont and Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
Chemistry, by Babu Ram Chunder Dutt.
Practical Chemistry, by Babu Ram Chunder Dutt.
Mixed Mathematics, by Babu Ashutosh Mukerjee.

3. The attendance at the lectures on Physics was very satisfactory, the audience numbering on an average two hundred. Some of the lady students from the La Martiniere Institution and Doveton College attended lectures regularly. Miss Adams, of the La Martiniere Institution, and Miss Taylor, of the Doveton College, took a great deal of interest in the lectures on Physics : they attended personally and watched over the regular attendance of the lady pupils under their superintendence.

4. The lectures delivered from January to March formed the concluding portion of the course of the session 1889-90 and were 7 in number. From July to December 102 lectures were delivered and they were the major part of the courses for the session 1890-91. Altogether there were 107 lectures delivered during the year under review.

5. Of these 21 lectures were delivered by Rev Father E Lafont ; 20 by Dr. Sircar ; 37 by Babu Ram Chunder Dutt ; 29 by Babu Ashutosh Mukhopadhyah.

6. Of the 21 lectures delivered by the Rev. Father E. Lafont, 5 were on Sound and the remaining 16 were on Light. Of the 5 lectures on Sound 4 formed the concluding lectures of the course begun in the previous year. The subjects were as follows :—The nature and production of musical sounds ; the velocity and propagation of sound ; the theory of various musical instruments ; optical study of musical sounds.

At the beginning of the session 1890-91 the lecturer finished the course of his lectures on Sound by one lecture the subject of which was,—the new Phonograph of Edison with numerous illustrations. The remaining 16 lectures were on Light. The lecturer explained the nature of Light on the Undulation-Theory, and advanced many reasons which gave this theory a probability amounting almost to certainty. Photometry was clearly defined and the principle of the law of squares underlying all photometers was demonstrated by numerous practical experiments. The laws of Reflection were illustrated by plane concave and convex mirrors, in which the actual formation of real or virtual images was placed before the audience, at the very same time that the theory of their formation was duly explained. The same process of experimental and ocular demonstration was followed to explain the various phenomena of Refraction,

lenses, prisms, etc., a very detailed account being given of the important branch of optics—Spectroscopy, which has enabled us to discover new elements, and furnished us with a knowledge of the composition of the heavenly bodies, a knowledge which could never be acquired by any other means of research. The phenomena of Dispersion gave the lecturer an opportunity to explain the theory of colour. Finally the principal optical instruments were shown and explained in detail: the Telescope, Microscope, projection apparatus for vertical and horizontal phenomena, the human Eye, its internal construction, its defects, with their remedies, its illusions (and here a lucid explanation was given of the phenomena of optical illusions exhibited at Dhurmtollah under the sensational designation of Metempsychosis) concluded Geometrical Optics. The remaining lectures were devoted to an experimental study of physical optics, furnishing a necessary preliminary basis to the elaborate mathematical lectures on the same subject delivered by Babu Asutosh Mukhopadhyay. The physical meaning of Polarisation, the various ways of producing polarised light, plane, circular, rotatory, elliptical, with an interesting study of chromatic effects of polarised light took about half a dozen lectures, concluding with one on the phenomena of Diffraction and Interference.

7. Of the 20 lectures delivered by Dr. Sircar 3 were on Electricity which formed the concluding lectures of the course of Electricity begun in the year previous. The first of these lectures was devoted to the phenomena and laws of Thermo-electricity. The discovery of thermo-electricity was due to Professor Seebeck of Berlin, who in 1821 showed that Volta's Law, that there is no resultant electro-motive force in a circuit formed solely of different metals, holds good only when all the junctions of the metals are of the same temperature, but that when the junctions are at different temperatures, there is a resultant electro-motive force. This was demontrated experimentally by Seebeck's apparatus, both with the single, and the astatic needle. It was shown how by experimenting with different substances their arrangement in what has been called thermo-electric series may be formed. The thermo-electric current passes from the positive to the negative metal across the heated junction. The laws of thermo-electricity were enunciated under three heads, viz., (1) that the current is rigorously constant when the difference of temperatures of the two junctions remains constant, (2) the intensity of the current increases with the difference of temperatures of the two junctions up to a certain limit, after which, as first shown by Cumming, inversion of the current takes place, (3) intensity is proportional to the number of couples. The phenomenon of inversion was shown experimentally by means of wires of iron and copper. The construction of thermo-piles was explained. Experiments were performed to show that dissimilar metals were not necessary for the production of a thermo-electric current. Dissimilarity in molecular arrangement in different parts of the same substance was enough to give rise to such a current. The different kinds of thermo-electric batteries were shown and explained. The identity of thermo-electricity with ordinary voltaic electricity was demonstrated by other than magnetic effects, by chemical decomposition, &c. The Peltier effect was experimentally demonstrated, and the Thomson effect explained.

In the second lecture electric-lighting was treated of. A short history was given of the subject. The two kinds of lamps used, the arc and the incandescent, were described, and their actions explained. The chief distinguishing peculiarity of incandescent lamps, viz., that the carbons are enclosed in vacuum tubes so as to prevent their combustion, was pointed out. The two chief modes of preparation of carbon filaments for incandescent lamps and the ingenious method of securing uniformity of thickness of the filaments were described and explained.

In the third lecture the subject of electric telegraph was treated of. The lecturer related how, before and even after the discovery of dynamic electricity, attempts were made by means of static electricity to transmit signals to distant places. This was done by means of wires to cause divergence of pith balls at their remote ends on being electrified at their proximal ends, or by means of sparks from Leyden jars. After the discovery of dynamic electricity Soemering of Munich in 1808 took advantage of the electrolysis of water to transmit signals. It was Ampere who was the first in 1821 to suggest the ultilization of Oersted's discovery for purposes of telegraphy. It was not till 1833 that Schilling and Weber actually employed the deflections of the magnetic needle to the right and left to signal an alphabetic code of letters. Cook and Wheatstone improved upon this and introduced in 1837 the needle Telegraph. Professor Henry of New York in 1831 used the electro-magnet to attract soft iron armatures and thus produce sounds. Morse of the same place in 1837 used the same means to mark dots and dashes upon a moving slip of paper. These instruments were shown and their uses demonstrated. The lecturer then showed experimentally how the earth could be used in place of the return wire, and the expenses of telegraphy immensely reduced. The lecture was concluded by a short reference to the necessity and use of the Relay, and the modes of working of sub-marine and duplex telegraphy.

The remaining 17 lectures were on Heat and they embraced the following subjects: The various sources or rather modes of production of heat, mechanical, chemical, electrical, and magnetical, were experimentally examined, and the inference from this examination was inevitable that heat was due to motion, but motion retarded or arrested, and that heat itself was a mode of motion. The effects of heat were then examined, in each case illustrated by experiments, under the heads of luminous, chemical, electrical, magnetical, and mechanical. The distinction between heat and temperature was shown. A short history was given of the progress of discovery of the various points in connection with thermometry or the measurements of temperatures. The various kinds of thermometers, including the differential thermometers, and the self-registering maximum and minimum thermometers, and the thermo-graph for continuous record of temperatures by means of photography, were described. The mechanical effects of the heat were then treated in detail. The various methods for determining the coefficients of expansion of solids, liquids and gases were described and explained, and the numerous applications of the general law of expansion by heat were pointed out. Exceptions to the general law of expansion offered by some subtances, notably by water, were mentioned, and some experimentally demonstrated, and the vital importance of this exception in the case of water in the economy of nature was fully shown. The laws of the expansion of crystals as arrived at by Mitcherlich were enunciated, and were shown to point to the tendency of heat to equalize the axes of the crystals. The change of state produced by heat was next dwelt upon; it was shown to be but an extreme case of expansion. Experimental demonstration was then given of fusion and its laws, of the fact of the melting points of alloys and fluxes being less than those of their ingredients, of the influence of pressure on the melting point. Solution was shown to be a form of fusion. Heat was shown to disappear during fusion and solution, and this was the simple explanation of the action of freezing mixtures. The most recent researches on the subject by Guthrie and others were laid before the audience. The remarkable phenomenon of Regelation was shown and explained. Vaporization was next treated of under the heads of slow evaporation from the surfarce of solids and liquids, of ebullition, and of vaporization in the spheroidal state, and the laws stated and demonstrated experimentally. In this connection the use of Papin's digester and of the hypsometer were pointed out. The paradoxical phenomena of matter in the spheroidal state were all shown by experiment. The lecturer drew attention to them as offering a satisfactory explanation of the immunity enjoyed by plumbers when they hold molten metals on their moistened hands, and even plunge their moistened hands into molten metal, the higher the temperature of the molten metals the greater being the protection, and also lending probability to the anceint stories of safe ordeals through fire. The reverse processes to liquefaction and vaporization were then briefly dwelt upon, and it was shown how by pressure and abstraction of heat combined even the gases hitherto believed to be permanent have not only been liquefied, but even solidified, and how by this means the metallic character of Hydrogen hitherto only suspected has been established. The concluding lectures were devoted to the consideration of the transmission of heat by conduction, convection, and radiation, and to the determination of the specific heats of bodies.

8. Twenty-five lectures were delivered by Babu Ram Chunder Dutt. The subjects were as follows;—General properties of matter and chemical affinity; laws of chemical combination and the Atomic theory; chemical Nomenclature; Hydrogen and its properties; Oxygen; composition and properties of water; peroxide of Hydrogen; Nitrogen and atmospheric air; ammonia; nitric acid; remaining oxides of nitrogen; chlorine; hydrochloric acid; oxides of chlorine; bromine; iodine and fleuorine; carbon; oxides of carbon; compounds of carbon and hydrogen; sulphur; and sulphuretted hydrogen; oxygen compounds of sulphur, Phosphorus and its compounds; boron; silicon; arsenic.

9. Twelve practical demonstrations in Chemistry were held by Babu Ram Chunder Dutt. They were on the detection of non-metallic elements, the detection and test of lead, mercurous and mercuric salts, copper and bismuth, cadmium and tin, arsenic, antimony aluminum, chromium, nickel, cobalt, zinc, iron barium, strontium, calcium, magnesium, pottasium and detection of acids.

(To be continued).

Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette.—May 6, 1891

GENERAL.—Moulvi Wajid Hossein is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector.

Mr. R. Carstairs, Officiating Deputy Commisioner, second grade, is confirmed in that grade, vice Mr. L. R. Forbes, retired.

Mr. C. A. S. Bedford is appointed to act in the second grade of Deputy Commissioners.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. Boileau is appointed to act in the first grade of Deputy Commissioners, vice Colonel C. H. Garbett, on furlough.

Mr. R. H. Renny is appointed to act in the second grade of Deputy Commissioners, vice Lieutenant-Colonel H. Boileau.

Mr. T. J. C. Grant, Magistrate and Collector, Birbhum, is allowed leave for two months.

Mr. Umesh Chunder Batabyal is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector during the absence, on leave, of Mr. T. J. C. Grant.

Babu Mukund Deb Mukerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jehanahad, Hughli, is transferred to the Sadr station of that district.

Mr. Kedar Nath Roy, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to have charge of the Jehanabad sub-division of the Hughli district.

Babu Jogesh Chunder Ghose, is appointed to act as a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, and his services are placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department of this Government.

Mr. R. M. Waller, Magistrate and Collector, Monghyr, is allowed furlough on medical certificate for six months and fifteen days.

The services of Mr. Ambica Churn Sen, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, are placed at the disposal of the Revenue Department of this Government.

The services of Mr. James Taylor, Tehsildar of the Khondmals, on leave, are placed at the disposal of the Revenue Department of this Government.

Mr. J. Ellison, Commissioner in the Sundurbuns, is allowed leave for three months.

Moulvi Abdul Hakam is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, and is posted to the head-quarters of the district of Patna.

The services of Mr. H. C. Clogstoun, Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police, Bengal, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Foreign Department.

The Rev. H. O. Moore is appointed to act as Senior Chaplain of St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta, and Chaplain of the Presidency jail, during the absence, on leave, of the Rev. W. MacCarthy.

The services of the Rev. Alexander Still, B. D., Officiating Junior Chaplain of St. Andrew's Church, Calcutta, are placed at the disposal of the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

Babu Ramgati Banerjeee is appointed to be Special Sub-Registrar of Hughli.

Babu Chandi Churn Banerjee, Head Master, Hindu School, is allowed leave for two and-a-months.

Mr. Atul Krishna Ray, Assistant Settlement Officer, Chittagong, is allowed three months' leave of absence.

The following Officers are appointed to be Assistant Settlement Officers in Chittagong:—Babu Romesh Chunder Das, Officiating Sub-Deputy Collector, Babu Durga Churn Ghose, Sub-Deputy Collector, and Babu Jogendra Kumar Bose, Special Deputy Collector.

The following officers are appointed to be Assistant Settlement Officers in Orissa:—Mr. E. H. C. Walsh, Mr. Surya Kumar Agasti, Mr. Baroda Charan Mitter, and Mr. Tehiruddin Ahmed.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—Surgeon A. W. D. Leahy is appointed to act as Medical Inspector of Emigrants (Colonial Emigration) in addition to his duties as Officiating Civil Surgeon of the 24 Pergunnahs.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.—The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by the Rev. Alfred Neville Rolfe of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Howrah Bench, in the district of Howrah.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—Mr. F. R. Gardiner, Executive Engineer, is, on return from privilege leave, retransferred from the Burdwan Division to the Chota Nagpore Division.

Mr. Francis Sills, Executive Engineer, Chittagong Division, is granted furlough for one year.

Mr. M. J. J. P. Norman, Executive Engineer, has been granted by her Majesty's Secretary of State for India furlough for six months in extension of that previously granted,

CIVIL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—Assistant Sergeon Narendra Nath Gupta, Superintendent of Vaccination, Eastern Bengal Circle, is allowed leave for 20 days.

Assistant Surgeon Bejoy Krishna Mukerjee, Deputy Superintendent of Vaccination, Eastern Bengal Circle, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Superintendent of Vaccination of that circle during the absence, on leave, of Assistant Surgeon Norendra Nath Gupta.

Assistant Surgeon Kali Prasanna Lahiri is appointed to be House Surgeon, Ophthalmic Ward, Medical College Hospital, Calcutta, vice Assistant Surgeon Atul Chandra Basu.

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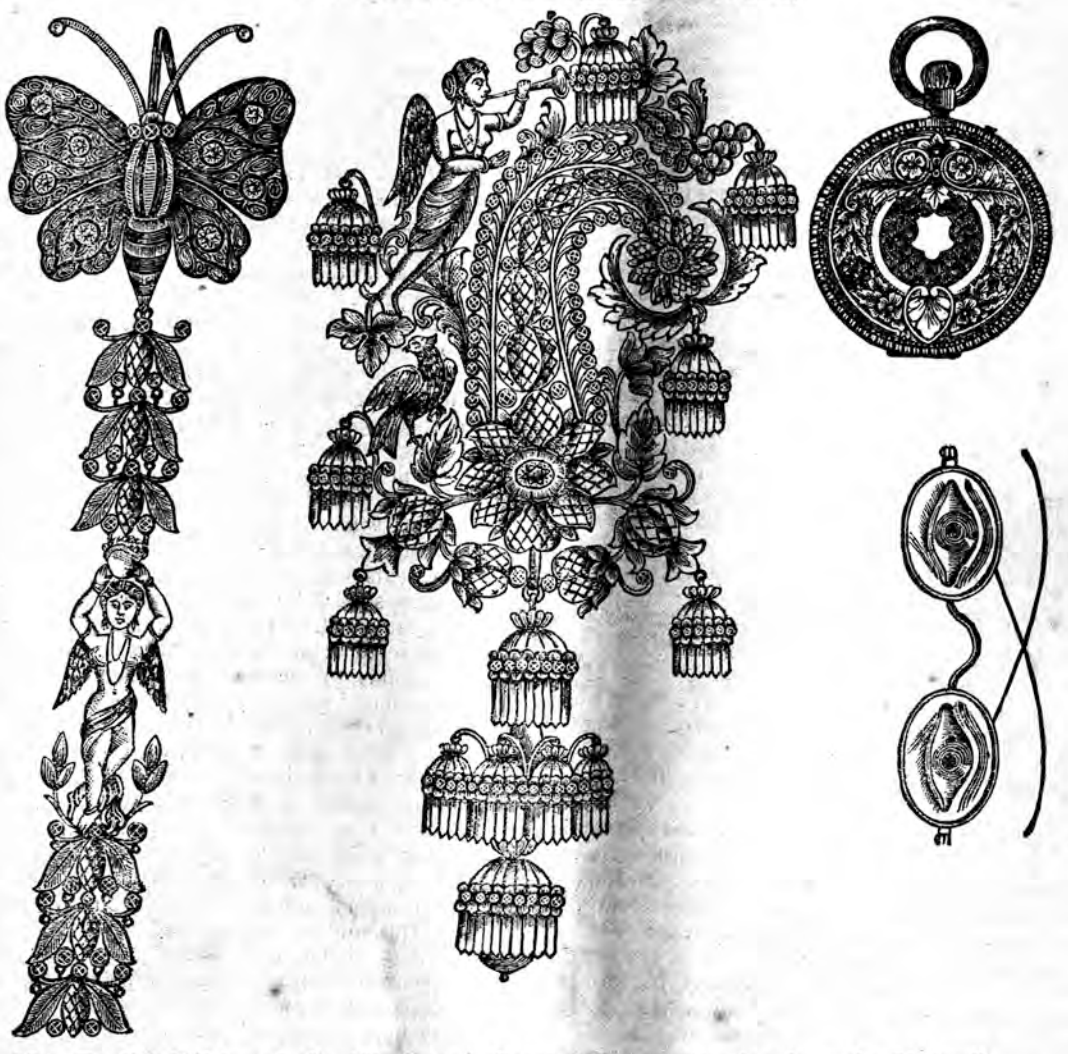

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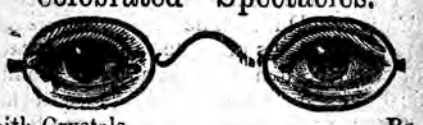

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